

# **DHADING RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT**



## **FINAL REPORT**

**1998-2002**

**United Mission to Nepal**  
**PO Box 126.**  
Tel : (977-1) 228118,228060  
Fax : 225559  
Kathmandu, Nepal

**यूनाइटेड मिसन टु नेपाल**



**United Mission to Nepal**



## CONTENTS

	Pages
List of Abbreviations	2
Executive Summary	3
Background & Overview of DRMP	6
The Process Approach	9
DRMP Achievements over the Project Period	11
Key Results-DRMP Activities Topics	11
<b>Key Result 1:</b> Pre-FUG Formation	11
<b>Key Result 2:</b> FUG Formation	13
CF handed over in DRMP Working Areas	15
<b>Key Result 3:</b> Women's Development	19
Women Involvement in Project Activities	20
Women's roles in DRMP Activities	21
<b>Key Result 4:</b> Income Generation	23
Forestry based IGA	24
Agriculture based IGA	24
Skill based IGA	26
<b>Key Result 5:</b> Institutional Development	27
Community development activities	
carried out by FUGs/CDG	28
Drinking Water System Construction	30
Development Activities carried out by CDG/FUG	32
Resource Conservation Education Record	33
Achievements & Changes	33
Pre-Formation phase Evaluation 2001	34
DRMP Formation Phase Evaluation 2002-Main Findings	50
 <b>APPENDIX:</b>	
Forest Bio-mass harvested	62
FUG- OP Revision in post formation area (ex-NRMP)	63
DRMP-Village Level Co-ordination Committee (VLCC)	64
Development fund Mobilization Process	66
Community Nutrition Project, Dhading- Summary Report	67
Success Story	69
RIMS-Report	70
DRMP Financial Report	75

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS:**

ADO	- Agriculture Development Officer
AFMA	- Agro-forestry Micro Enterprise Advisor
AGNW	- Advisory Group for Nepali Women
CAT	- Community Awareness Team
CBO	- Community based organisation
CD	- Community development
CDC	- Community Development Committee
CDG	- Community Development Group
CDO	- Chief District Officer
CF	- Community forestry
CFMO	- Community Forestry Management Officer
CFUG	- Community Forestry User Group
D/W	- Drinking water
DAG	- Disadvantaged Group
DCS	- Development & Consulting Services, Butwal
DDC	- District Development Committee
DEO	- District Education Officer
DFO	- District Forest Officer
DG-	- Director General
DoF	- Department of Forests
DPCC	- District Policy Co-ordination Committee
DRMP	- Dhading Resource Management Project
DRS	- Direct Recording Scale
ERO	- Employment Relations Office (UMN)
FCHV	- Female Child Health Volunteer
FLCC	- Field Level Co-ordination Committee
FUG	- Forest User Group
FUGC	- Forest User Group Committee
GMU	- Growth Monitoring Unit
h/h	- Household
HMG/N	- His Majesty's Government of Nepal
HP	- Health Post
IGP	- Income Generation Programme
JTA	- Junior technical Assistant
LNGO	- Local non-government organisation
MCUK	- Methodist Church of Britain (UK)
NRH	- Nutrition Rehabilitation Home
NRMP	- Nepal Resource Management Project
NTFP	- Non timber forest products
OP	- Operational Plan (of FUG)
PCC	- Policy Co-ordination Committee
PE	- Peer Educator
PFP	- Pre Formation Phase
PFS	- Post Formation Support
PHCP	- Public Health Co-ordination Project
PRA	- Participatory Rural Appraisal
RCE	- Resource Conservation Education
RDD	- Rural Development Department of UMN
RIMS	- Resource Identification & Management Society
RLT	- Range Level Team
RTC	- Regional Training Centre (DANIDA)
S/C	- Saving/Credit Fund

## **1. Executive summary:**

The track record of Community Forestry in Nepal is impressive and innovative. Much experience has been gained and shared outside Nepal. This paper attempts to describe the experiences of DRMP in implementing a community forestry project, focusing initially and specifically on the poorest and most marginalised communities in the DRMP working area of Dhading District.

DRMP was designed with all stakeholders, drawing on a wealth of experience and expertise. The final design has resulted in an innovative new approach to community forestry, in the context of Nepal. DRMP can be seen as a pilot project, where effort has been made to design a working approach, which could be replicated, in terms of resources required and manpower.

DRMP approach has 3 phases – Pre Formation, FUG Formation and FUG Post Formation. The essence and major objective of using such an approach is to enable the poorest and marginalised community representatives, which includes women, to take *active and responsible roles in FUG decision making* (see DRMP Objectives). By allowing sufficient time and providing resources to the focus communities initially, then their confidence and skills are developed amongst the poorest. When the FUG and Committee is later formed during the Formation Phase, then women and focus community representatives have the confidence to speak up for their rights and usually have their interests heard and reflected in the FUG Operational Plans and regulations.

Details of the DRMP approach and activities, along with the process cycle are included in this report. It is important to note that DRMP constantly reviewed and revised the process, as a result of working experience, which reflects an *action/reflection* monitoring approach. The results and impact of the Pre Formation phase can be seen in the high percentage of women and people from disadvantaged groups serving on DRMP-formed forest user group committees - over 40% are women and representatives of the project's focus communities.

A total of over 120 community development groups were formed in 12 VDCs during DRMP's Pre Formation phase, representing 4285 households, using a selection criteria to identify the poorest communities in a VDC. During DRMP's 4 year cycle 468 community development activities have been carried out by these groups, including resource conservation education (RCE) classes, footpath improvements, toilet construction, drinking water systems, kitchen gardening, animal husbandry / livestock management, mulberry/silkworm, handicrafts, etc. with training and financial support provided by DRMP. Community group facilitators or *Peer Educators* selected by community development groups formed the foundation and link with DRMP. One male/one female from each community development group initially received training, followed by monthly VDC level Peer Educator Workshops, where on-going activities were reviewed, with plans and issues discussed. It should be pointed out that the peer educators did not receive any allowances, yet their level of voluntary participation remained high throughout the project cycle. Programme support from DRMP for community development groups and peer educators was provided by DRMP Community Awareness Teams, usually made up of 3 staff based in each VDC.

The Formation Phase focused on the same working area but additionally included 6 VDCs where DRMP only provided technical support to the DFO staff working in forest user group formation in that area. Therefore, the Formation Phase covered a total of 18 VDCs of Dhading District. In addition to these, in the 6 VDCs where the Nepal Resource Management Project (NRMP) had previously been implemented Post Formation support activities and the revision of 11 Operational Plans (OP) were also carried out by DRMP. A total of 142 community forest user groups have been formed by DRMP. This has meant that 4733 ha. of

forest land was handed over to 69,953 people, with a high percentage of women and members of disadvantaged groups on the management committees of the groups. 47% of all forest user group committee members are focus community representatives, yet in total they make up about 38% of the FUG members. 43% of committee members of DRMP-formed forest user groups are women compared to the national average of 21%. However, awareness and understanding of the community forest user group constitution and operational plan (OP) is often limited to a few people on the committees. Some OP reflection workshops have been carried out with forest user group committees but there is an obvious need to provide such trainings on a wider scale.

Most groups have a basic understanding of forest management based on pruning, cleaning and thinning, with forest management trainings provided to several community forest user groups. However, groups outside of the DRMP intensive support area have weaker record keeping ability. There is a clear link between the capability of the groups and the pre-formation work carried out by DRMP. The level of support provided through the Formation Phase has been lower than planned as the technical manpower required for OP preparation has been increased by the new Department of Forests guidelines on forest inventory. USAID advised DRMP to give priority to fulfilling the forest user group formation target, which resulted in less attention to the qualitative aspects of post-formation support.

The DRMP project as a whole has used an action research approach in testing and constantly modifying strategies to achieve the overall objective to empower and enable marginalised communities to participate more effectively in community activities. Working with specific marginalised communities during the pre-formation phase has been effective for overall community development and as an awareness raising method to prepare communities to take responsibility for the forest themselves. Experience has shown that having a forest ranger in the initial Community Awareness Team is effective and the speed of forest user group formation work during the formation phase more than makes up for the apparent lack of technical output during the pre-formation period.

It is still too early however, to know if the DRMP approach will lead to community forest user groups with greater long-term strength, representation and capability. However, it was found by the recent evaluation carried out, that through the community development groups and the community forest user groups formed, there has been a positive impact on the quality of life of the community, notably in the following areas: increased numbers of children (especially girls) going to school; construction and use of toilets; greater community cohesiveness; reduction in social conflict and local resolution of conflicts.

The Department of Forests introduced new Forest Inventory Guidelines, which require a more intensive inventory of forest resources as part of OP preparation. Technical staff have been diverted to this work at the cost of reduced post-formation support for forest user groups, which was designed to follow on from the Formation Phase. The District Forestry Office (DFO) has supported DRMP activities when allowances have been made available, with promising results from the DFO Support area. Also, the DRMP coordination committees provide a very supportive relationship with constructive consultation and regular meetings, drawing together the District Development Committee, the District Forestry Office and DRMP. There has been a good working relationship between DRMP and the Chief District Officer and other government offices concerning security issues.

DRMP works very closely with the VDCs and there is very good integration in a variety of development initiatives, including Field Level Coordination Committees, which is appreciated by the VDC Chairmen. DRMP provides community development funds for supporting forest user group community development programmes, such as drinking water systems, fruit/vegetable growing, livestock improvement, etc., channeled through the Field Level Coordination Committees with support from VDCs and local communities. Village Level Coordination Committees – VDC-wide forest user group coordination committees, have recently been established and should provide a useful local network for community forest user groups in the future. DRMP is very well accepted by the community and also has cooperative working relationships with some local NGOs. DRMP has provided some institutional support to HIMAWANTI and FECOFUN federations.

DRMP staff have formed an NGO called RIMS-Nepal (Resource Identification and Management Society, Nepal) which has already started carrying out some forestry and development work in the DRMP project area, including a non-timber forest product (NTFP) support programme funded by the Uniting Churches in the Netherlands, in addition to a subcontract from DRMP to complete fourth year activities. As most community forest user groups have only been supported to assist them during the formation stage, it is hoped that RIMS-Nepal will be able to continue to implement the next generation, Post Formation activities through a new programme presently being negotiated with USAID. This is vital to ensure that the momentum and progress can be maintained, to enable the forest user groups to become strong and legitimate local organisations able to utilize their forest resources and equitably share benefits.

## 2. Background & Overview of DRMP

Dhading Resource Management Project (DRMP) was initiated in 1998, with agreements signed between UMN and USAID to fund 4 years of the 5-year agreement signed by HMG/N and UMN 1998 - 2003. DRMP was a continuation of USAID's supported NRMP, which had focused on 6 VDCs in Dhading District and 6 VDCs in Ramachhap District, with a primary focus on forestry.

DRMP is managed under UMN's Rural Development Department and covers 24 VDCs of Dhading District. UMN has provided an expatriate Advisor for the whole period of DRMP, plus an expatriate volunteer who assisted DRMP to set up a district wide FUG database which is now handed over to the DFO.

Main Objective of the project: **DRMP will provide skills and build capacity of the poorest and women so that they can take active and responsible roles in Forest User Groups (FUGs) and other community development groups in order to improve their quality of life.**

Date of Initiation of Project	<b>1998</b>
Funding Agency	<b>USAID</b>
Implementing Partners	<b>Forest User Groups / Community Based Groups</b>
Annual Budget 1998/99	<b>Rs. 8,263,233</b>
Annual Budget 1999/00	<b>Rs. 10,222,856</b>
Annual Budget 2000/01	<b>Rs. 25,765,647</b>
Annual Budget 2001/02	<b>Rs. 17,777,400</b>
Total	<b>Rs. 62,029,136</b>

### 2.1 DRMP Background:

Dhading Resource Management Project (DRMP) was jointly planned by UMN and HMG/N Dept of Forest, to: *provide skills and build capacity of the poorest and women so that they can take active and responsible roles in Forest Users Groups (FUGs) and other community development groups in order to improve their quality of life.*

A 5 year agreement(1998-2003) was signed between DoF and UMN with the main objective to form 200 new FUGs in 18 VDCs of Dhading District. In order that DRMP could achieve its objectives, a detailed project strategy was developed, with a 3-phase approach to the work:

- Pre Formation – 2 years awareness raising and implementation of Actions Plans with selected poor and marginalised communities in 12 VDCs
- FUG Formation – with an emphasis on encouraging women/DAG leadership and income generating activities (IGA) in 200<sup>1</sup> new FUGs of 18 VDCs.
- FUG Post Formation Support – provide opportunities for FUGs to become capable LNGOs, able to implement CD activities which benefit focus communities in 24 VDCs.

The working area VDCs and focus communities were selected using participatory methodology involving VDC/DDC members to identify the poorest areas by consensus. Funding for DRMP has been provided by USAID, but only approved until August 2002, when further funding will be required to complete the project.

It was planned in the DRMP Strategic Plan that a NGO would take over follow up activities in the fifth year. Registration of RIMS Nepal - formed by DRMP staff has already



implemented some activities and plans to take over full responsibility of on going programmes after August 2002.

## **2.2 Working Areas**

Pre Formation phase activities initially focused on 6 VDCs, where awareness raising activities prepared CD groups for working together to improve their quality of life. In the first cycle, CATs (community awareness teams) worked with focus groups for 2 years, prior to the FUG formation phase. After reviewing the impact of the 2-year cycle and also from recommendation of the PCC, the Pre Formation phase in the next cycle 6 VDCs was reduced to one year. Field teams of 2/3 persons (with additional Ranger & Team Facilitator support) have been working in the following 12 VDCs:

- Chainpur
- Kalleri
- Salang
- Bhudathum
- Khari
- Aginchowk
- Mulpani
- Baireni
- Kiranchowk
- Bhumisthan
- Jyamrung
- Khalt

### **Post Formation Support area:**

This work has focused on the 6 VDCs of the old NRMP working area, Naubise, Thakre, Tasarpu, Goganpani, Kebalpur and Jeewanpur, where 50 FUGs were formed during NRMP and where support was provided until Asar 2057. 11 expired FUG/OP have been revised and registered. The RIMS NTFP programme is also working in this area.

### **DFO Support area:**

In 6 other VDCs, where FUG formation support assistance to the DFO has been provided for FUG formation only.

- Benighat
- Dhusa
- Jogimara
- Salyantar
- Maidi
- Nalang

## **2.3 Focus Community/CD Groups in 12 VDCs of DRMP area**

Following a participatory selection process, the following VDCs were selected initially, then CATs with support from VDC leaders selected focus communities, being the poorest, most marginalised in the selected VDC. The following table illustrates the number of CD groups formed during the Pre Formation phase, number of households and population.

<b>VDC Name:</b>	<b>CDG No:</b>	<b>Households</b>	<b>Population</b>
Bhumisthan	12	268	1570
Baireni	13	340	2034
Kiranchowk	17	401	2159
Chainpur	18	667	3850
Khari	17	366	2019
Jyamrung	10	278	1622
Mulpani	11	292	1489
Aginchowk	13	300	1917
Bhudhathum	11	320	2480
Salang	13	336	2269
Kalleri	12	333	2017
Khalte	14	384	2548
<b>Total:</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>4285</b>	<b>25,974</b>

### **DRMP key results**

The five key results of DRMP are as follows:

1. The 10 poorest and most marginalised communities in each of 12 VDCs in the project area will envision and achieve an improved quality of life, through the formation of community groups and the utilization of resources from VDCs and District resource providers;
2. 200 New FUGs will be registered which will effectively manage their forests and also make other improvements in their communities;
3. Women will share leadership and be active in all FUGs and community institutions;
4. Community groups and FUGs will benefit from income-generating activities based on local agriculture and forestry resources;
5. Approximately 250 local institutions including FUGs will be able to effectively plan, implement, and evaluate activities, which will benefit all of their members on a sustainable basis.

## Indicators for evaluating activities

The key results are the basis for DRMP activities, which also have indicators to measure success of the implemented activities.

Key result:	Indicator	1998/1999		1999/2000		2000/2001		2001/2002		Total
		Targets	Actual	Targets	Actual	Targets	Actual	Targets	Actual	
1	Number of new groups formed	20	50	50	55	50	72	20	0	177
1	No of development activities carried out by groups	20	40	100	154	100	154	125	265	613
2 1.2.1. USAID	Number of FUGs formed/CF handed over	10	3	30	35	40	46	60	58	142 (139+3)
2 1.2.2 USAID	Hectares of land officially handed over to FUGs	280	202	840	957	1120	1703	1680	187 1	4733
3	Females taking trainings	150	159	400	723	500	1595	600	403	2880
3	Number of active women in new FUGCs	30	17	90	170	120	191	180	257	635
4 1.1.2 USAID	Number of households(h/h) producing forest products (1000s of h/h)	1400 1.4	1560	2000 2.0	2728	2800 2.8	3945	3,600 3.6	557 0	13,803
4 1.1 USAID	Sales of forest products (million of US\$)	30,000 0.03	23,400	60,000 0.06	25,858	0,000 0.08	34,675	00,000 0.10	41,062	124,995
5 1.2 USAID	Forest bio-mass harvested (1000s of cubic meters)	11,200 1.12	10,800	33,600 3.36	9790	4,800 4.48	30,165	67,200 6.72	96,968	147,723
5 1.1.3 USAID	Number of beneficiaries in new FUGs (1000s)	3000 3	2666	1000 0 10	11,848	5,000 15	23,959	20,000 20	31,480	69,953
5	Number of CD activities carried out by FUGs	30	28	90	105	120	119	180	192	444

Note: Three CF are ready to hand over.

## **The Process Approach.**

### **PRE FORMATION PROCESS**

The Dhading Resource Management Project (DRMP) programme implementation process has been divided into 3 phases, covering a period of 5 years. The first 2 years are the **Pre - Formation Phase.** In this phase communities have learned skills and built up their capacity, so that they can identify and solve their own problems using their own available resources as much as possible. Community groups were then formed and DRMP provided organizational support to group leaders, so they could access outside resources and develop community unity, through small-scale community efforts.

The main expected outcomes that support the vision and mission of DRMP were as follows:

- 120 community groups of the poorest and marginalised people will be able to envision and achieve an improved quality of life
- 200 new FUGs will be registered and will be able to effectively manage their forests and also make other improvements in their communities
- Women will share leadership and be active in all FUGs and community institutions
- Community groups and FUGs will benefit from income-generating activities based on local agriculture and forestry resources
- Approximately 250 local institutions, including FUGs, will be able to effectively plan, implement and evaluate activities which benefits all of their members on a sustainable basis

**In order to achieve the above-expected outcomes, the following process was adopted:**

- Receive an invitation letter from the VDC to implement the awareness raising activities.
- Present DRMP orientation workshop to the VDC body, local elite, all party representatives, representatives from local level line agencies to explain DRMP goals/objectives and limitations
- Set up DRMP Field Offices jointly with VDC input and advice.
- Assign DRMP Community Awareness Teams (CATs) to the concerned VDCs.
- Conducts transect walks with multi disciplinary team, including local leaders, to familiarize themselves with the whole VDC.
- Select VDC focus communities: A second all party meeting is arranged where CATs, having familiarised themselves with the VDC, can give valued judgements alongside VDC and other local leaders. The number of communities is kept to a level that can effectively be supported (around 12).
- Present street drama in 2 sites in the VDC.
- Carry out PRA in selected focus communities.
- Form Groups in focus communities including selection of Group Facilitators (one male and one female) and organize monthly workshops so that they become capable to administer DRMP Community Support Fund as a VDC wide group.
- Start Resource Conservation Education (RCE) class as an entry point, where the class is a medium to focus on local issues and concerns as well as to read and write.
- Conduct Baseline survey in focus communities. This occurs after rapport building with CATs, resulting in a more accurate picture than if conducted at the beginning of activities when people are not trusting or familiar with new staff.
- Run Community Development Group (CDG) Management Training on "Leadership and Gender Awareness". Follow up workshops is on going.
- Run CDG monthly meetings in all focus communities with DRMP CATs attending whenever possible to discuss the groups concerns.
- Run VDC Female Members Leadership training and VDC Body – Strategic Plan/Mgmt. training.

- Form Field Level Coordination Committee (FLCC) at the initiation of VDC to assist in the DRMP process.
- Provide Visioning and Action Plan Training to the Group Leaders.
- Ensure the community development groups undertake action plan preparation.
- Attend Bi-monthly FLCC meeting - to allow Reporting, Bi-monthly action plan preparation, Feedback and Coordination between the organizations represented.
- Run a Community Forest Awareness Campaign with orientation workshop in the focus communities.
- Facilitate action plan implementation by the Community Development Groups using local resources.
- Start the FUG Formation with selected groups – leading to FUG formation with the support of technical staff.
- Provide technical training on suitable income generating areas as per the action plan prepared by the groups. A pocket area approach is taken for vegetable/fruit, provide inputs according to climatic conditions.
- Promote Income Generating Program, focusing on women/Dalit. Use Community Development Fund to develop new possibilities.
- Follow up and supervise on-going activities.
- Facilitate Action plan revision and implementation.
- Organize RCE facilitator tour + refresher training for RCE facilitator
- Organize Monthly Women Leadership Workshop for Forest Users Committee (FUC) women members.
- Organize quarterly Female Leaders interaction Programme (FUG,VDC,CDG)
- Facilitate Coordination and linkage between CDGs and VDC level line agencies.
- Undertake Monitoring and evaluation leading to FUG Formation phase.

This process was revised during the all-staff workshops, with a view to improving it for future pre-formation work. As a result, despite many new VDCs being highly politically sensitive, DRMP was able successfully to establish CATs and select focus communities. Strong working relations were built with the local leaders by using the new process, allowing DRMP to operate more successfully and effectively.

Focus

Vi  
pro

**DRMP Achievements Over the Project Period:**

The following table summarizes the statistical record of what was accomplished by staff and Communities in the focus VDCs of Dhading district.

Activities	#	Beneficiaries
VDCs	12	25974 (4285hhs)
Handed over forest	139	68045
Resource Conservation (Adult Literacy) Classes	81	1892
Drinking Water System	85	12895
Income Generating Activities (Bee Keeping, Kitchen gardening Goat raising and Cash Crop)	10	3904
Latrines	142 CDGs and 123 FUGs	2363

**Key result 1: Pre-FUG Formation**

*The 10 poorest and most marginalised communities in each of 12 VDCs in the project area will envision and achieve an improved quality of life, through the formation of community groups and the utilisation of resources from VDCs and District resource providers.*

**UNI KHARKA VILLAGE “NOW AND THEN”**

Uniu Kharka, a small village of Khalte VDC, is a DRMP focus community with 34 Gurung households. Traditionally, most of the men are working as labor in different parts of India to send in money as most households live from ‘hand to mouth’. DRMP entered Khalte VDC in July 2000 with awareness raising activities.

Before DRMP’s intervention, that village was socially, economically and educationally very backward. Nobody has completed primary education (Class 7), with only one person passing Class 4. The health and sanitation of the community was very poor. There was no latrine in the community. Drinking water spouts and footpaths were not cleaned. Therefore the community members were suffering from different diseases. There was no unity in the community. There was no infrastructure. Most of the women wanted to escape newcomers. They believed in traditional faith healer. These were the reasons that DRMP selected it as a focus community.

Initially, the field staff worked very hard to help group members understand DRMP’s goals and objectives. After formation of the Community Development Group, two group facilitators (one man and one woman) attended different trainings, including Leadership and Gender in Development, Resource Conservation Education (RCE) facilitator and Group Management and Project Planning. Now one RCE class is running with 24 people continuously participating. Group facilitators and RCE facilitators have regularly met in monthly meetings and workshops. They have built up close working relationships with the DRMP field staff and developed their leadership skills.

During this short span of time, the community has cleaned and maintained footpaths, drinking water systems and protected natural forest. RCE facilitators and participants have constructed pit latrine. As a result, there is a reduction of diseases caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation. Through the initiation of the group, they have been starting to enroll their children in the formal school, they are able to get safe drinking water (3 taps) and have been gradually started going to the health post instead of traditional faith healer for treatment. Now, they have prepared an action plan to fulfill their felt needs and they are trying to access outside resources. They are very pleased to become a model village in Khalte VDC.

Submitted by Madhu Shrestha and Jhamka Khadka

Key Result 1 encompasses the Pre- formation phase, the objective of which is to provide skills and build the capacity of the poorest and women, and that they should then be able to take active and responsible roles in FUGs and other community Development Groups to improve their quality of life.

Over the four-year period, a total of 161 Community Development Groups were formed.

**DRMP Focus community/ CD groups in 12 VDCs**

1998-2000

VDC Name	No. of CDG	Households	Population
Bhumisthan	12	268	1570
Bairani	13	340	2034
Kiranchowk	17	401	2159
Chainpur	18	667	3850
Khari	17	366	2019
Jhamrung	10	278	1622
Mulpani	11	292	1489
Aginchowk	13	300	1917
Bhudhathum	11	320	2480
Salang	13	336	2269
Kalleri	12	333	2017
Khalte	14	384	2548
Total	161	4285	25974

In order to fulfill the target of handing over community forest to the user groups, during the final year emphasis was placed upon resource conservation education (RCE) classes and the provision of support to fulfil the action plans prepared by community development groups.

Implementation of the project was substantially affected by the political instability of the region. However group meetings, supervision of RCE classes, and field level technical and non-technical trainings and follow up have continued in spite of this.

Major activities carried out during the project period under key result 1:

- Drama Presentation (street drama) for awareness
- Pit toilet conservation (sanitation program)
- Group Formation /meeting
- FLCC formation /meeting
- RCE classes
- Footpath trail maintain /construction
- Toile sanitation
- DWS maintained
- School building construction
- Focus community selection
- base line survey
- RCE Facilitator training
- Saving credit group activities
- Planning and management training
- Commercial vegetable farming training

- DWS survey and construction
- Smokeless stove making training
- Income Generating Activities
- Mudha making training
- Regular meeting
- Community Development activities carried out by CDGS

## Key Result 2: FUG Formation

*In 12 village development committees (VDCs) of Dhading District of the project area, plus 6 additional VDCs where registration only will be required, communities will form 200 new forest user groups (FUGs). These FUGs will be able to achieve their vision for managing their forest and making other improvements in their communities. Disadvantaged people and women will be active members of the FUGs.*

### **Kalika Community Forest, Khalte - A Praiseworthy Campaign**

DRMP started work in Khalte VDC in 2057. It is a fairly remote VDC, being 3 hours walk from Dhading Besi, the district headquarters and 5 hours walk from the Prithvi Highway. The DRMP team has been involved in an awareness-raising programme with focus communities, however other communities in the VDC are interested to work with DRMP as well.

In Khalte the concept of Community Forestry was not new and due to the level of their knowledge it has been a challenge to accelerate our Community Forestry work to meet their level of expectation. The District Forest Office had raised awareness and Forest and a local NGO, had tried to form Forest User Groups, but had been unsuccessful.

An example is the case of Kalika Community Forest. The forest covers a large area - 200 hectares - but also 400 user households who need to be consulted during the Handover process. It was a challenge to complete the work to hand over this forest to the community.

The DRMP Team decided to improve awareness and with the help of the forest technician presented a drama on Community Forestry and its benefits. The day was hot and sunny and we received a warm welcome from the people of Dandagaun. The street drama played to about 700 people, including all the school students. Everyone present realized the importance of Community Forestry and understood the process of FUG formation and C.F Handover.

After the drama finished the team stayed in the community and it was a good opportunity to meet with people of various occupations and a wide range of viewpoints. People discussed openly and gave several suggestions as to how to manage the forest. At last all the participants reached a conclusion and formed a large but united Forest User Group. Mr. Ram Prasad Sharuma, a most respected and significant member of the community resigned his post of chairperson to hand over the authority to another person.

From the beginning of the next day people gathered to prepare the constitution of the Forest User Group and despite it being very hot there were never less than 400 people present. The DRMP team worked well together with Jhamka, the community motivator, facilitating the groups, Madhu, the team leader, keeping a record of the discussion and Mukunda, the technician provided advice on Community Forestry policy and related legal and technical issues. They continued the discussions, even when it got hotter and they got hungrier. Once the FUG Assembly reached successful completion they quickly, efficiently and enthusiastically completed the Forest Boundary Survey and the Forest Inventory, supported by the DRMP team.

Now the local communities who are the users of Kalika Community Forest are very happy as they are the legal managers of a large sal forest. They have agreed on their Constitution and developed their own Operational Plan. They were very grateful to the DRMP Team's hard work in allowing the forest to be handed over so quickly, when other organizations had given up.

Submitted by Mukunda Aryal



**Background:**

Community forest registration and handover is the main objective of Key Result 2. DRMP had the target of forming 200 new CFUGs in 18 village Development Committees of Dhading district within a period of five years. However, the project was able to function for just four years with USAID funding. Accordingly, the target was reduced to the forming of 140 CFUGs within four years.

After the community awareness programs which focus mainly on community forestry, the CF handover process was given high priority, both in focus and non-focus communities. During the project period, 180 FUGs have been formed and 140 CFs have been handed over to the users, though forest survey activities have been hampered this year, due to the state of Emergency. (See - list of handed over CF).

**FORMATION PHASE PROCESS AND ACTIVITIES**

The process of CFUG formation and forest handover comprises the following linked activities:

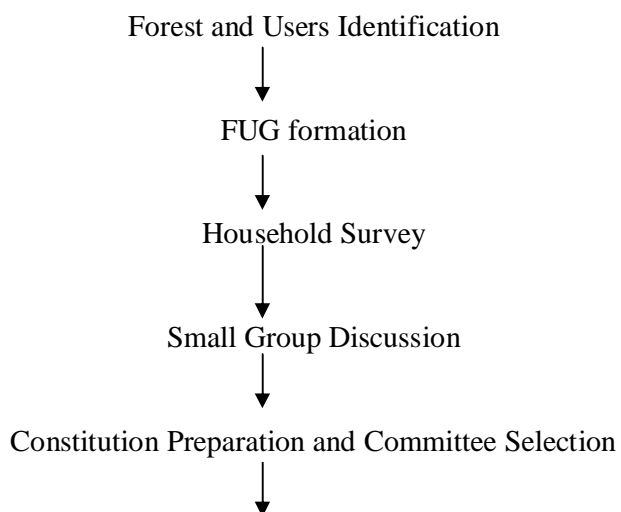
- Raise awareness about community forestry- through drama shows, meeting, tours
- Identification of user through house to house visits and mass meeting of users
- identification of user group
- Election of CFUG committee members including women, disadvantaged from all villages
- Prepare constitution and operation plan including boundary survey and forest inventory.
- Seek approval of the constitution and operational from the district office, and
- Official handover of the forest to CFUG by DFO

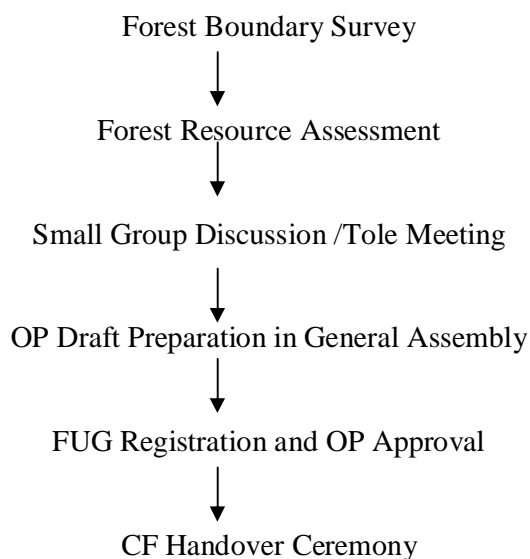
**Process details:**

In order to facilitate the participation of household members in a settlement (tole) small group discussions are held. This allows all users to provide inputs in the preparation of the constitution and the operational plan (OP).

When CFUGs are formed, they can determine their own vision for their forest and communities. They analyze their own problems, plan and implement their own solutions and use their own resources to overcome their problems. Community forest can provide their basic forest product needs and they can also sell their surplus forest products outside. The income thus derived can be used for their collective needs and for community development. In this way, the users develop a high level of self-worth. Community CFUG formation helps local people to be more independent.

The logical process of CFUG formation is shown in the following flow diagram.

**FUG Formation flow diagram**



### **CFUG Network:**

In an effort to promote local support networks amongst CFUGs, DRMP has introduced the VLCC (Village Level Coordination Committee) concept. The VLCC is a VDC-wide FUG coordination committee. The VLCC meets bimonthly to discuss issues concerning the local groups and relates to other organizations in the area. It is envisaged that the VLCC will later be registered as a LNGO and will perform participatory impact monitoring (PIM) of CFUGs and report to the DFO (see appendix-VLCC concept).

### **Community Forest Handed Over in DRMP Working Areas**

<b>Aginchowk V.D.C.</b>									
	Name of the forest	Ward	Forest area	HHS	Beneficiaries	FUG committee /female		specificm en	year handed over
1.	Devisthan	9	21.05	82	555	5	4	sal,saj	2000/2001
2.	Jaleswari	6	7.36	73	417	5	4	sal,sisue	2000/2001
3	Koirala	8	13.68	54	326	3	3	chilaune	2000/2001
4.	Ratmate	7	23.52	85	510	4	2	sal,saj	2000/2001
5.	Sundari	5	37.59	46	265	0	0	sal,sisue	2000/2001
6.	Sundarimai	6	15.58	73	417	4	3	chilaune	2000/2001
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>118.78</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>2490</b>		<b>16</b>		
<b>Bairani V.D.C.</b>									
7.	Bagha Bajra	6	10.53	45	281	6	5	sal,saj	2000/2001
8.	Jal kanya	6	11.84	45	281	7	4	sal,sisue	2000/2001
9.	Laxmi	6	34.1	63	378	1	0	chilaune	2000/2001
10.	Seti Kamarai	6	54.88	43	288	4	5	sal,saj	2000/2001
11.	Shanka Devi	8	53.92	68	330	3	6	sal,sisue	2000/2001
12.	Bhumichulli		62.12	60	383	6	7	chilaune	2000/2001
13.	Thapa syaldanda		4.16	38	238	5	4	sal,saj	2000/2001
14.	Laliguran		60	80	531	6	3	sal,sisue	2000/2001
15.	Bajhagaun		21.72	27	146	5	4	chilaune	2000/2001
16.	Dihidanda kalikhola		5.08	27	175	0	0	sal,saj	2000/2001
17.	Tirture		16.5	60	385	6	3	sal,sisue	2000/2001
18.	Sayapatrai		13.12	47	257	6	3	chilaune	2000/2001
19.	Jankalyan	9	11.96	47		6	3	sal,saj	2000/2001
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>360.77</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>3918</b>		<b>47</b>		
<b>Budhthums V.D.C.</b>									
20.	Amale pakha	5	41.56	156	936	1	3	chilaune	2001/2002

21.	Bahrabishe Chuidanda	6	11.76	86	484	8	3	sal,saj	2001/2002
22.	Bandarepakha	8	4.91	69	478	5	3	sal,sisue	2001/2002
23.	narkate pakha	1	9.02	76	547	6	3	chilaune	2001/2002
24.	Ranishwara	9	9.1	118	689	1	2	sal,saj	2001/2002
25.	Dandagaira	2	6.2	93	927	4	2	sal,sisue	2001/2002
26.	Nursery pakha	6	4.8	90	649	8	3	chilaune	2001/2002
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>87.35</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>4710</b>		<b>19</b>		
<b>Bhumisthan V.D.C.</b>									
27.	Bhedikharka		43.96	109	729	10	1	sal,saj	2001/2002
28.	Chayandanda chuli	2	24.1	109	729	8	2	sal,sisue	2001/2002
29.	Lekh Khola	2	11.17	44	275	4	3	chilaune	2001/2002
30.	Jurethum	2,9	179.74	420	2549	4	2	sal,saj	2001/2002
31.	philphale	5	2	35	230	3	0	sal,sisue	2001/2002
32.	Andheri	8	26.25	74	460	9	0	chilaune	2001/2002
33.	Salghari	6	4.4	49	296	7	3	sal,saj	2001/2002
34.	Jharlang Khola	8	45	124	744	7	4	sal,sisue	2001/2002
35.	ChhuraGharlang	9	56.5	30	212	7	4	chilaune	2001/2002
36.	Thuokhoriya	3	6.5	163	1005	0	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
37.	Ghairyun Devi	1	52	69	309	4	2	sal,sisue	2001/2002
38.	Kadme simsar	1	18.75	43	250	0	0	chilaune	2001/2002
39.	salle	4	25.13	213	1326	1	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
40.	chayandanda	5	7.25					sal,sisue	2001/2002
41.	bhumibageshwori	6	51.75	157	999	0	0	chilaune	2001/2002
42.	sisnekhola	6	4.06	42	252	0	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
43.	Thadokhola harali	2	10	34	220	9	5	sal,sisue	2001/2002
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>568.56</b>	<b>1681</b>	<b>10585</b>		<b>26</b>		
<b>Chainpur V.D.C.</b>									
44.	Bankali	1	21.71	184	977	0	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
45.	Dharampani Andhari	4	44.18	44	275	6	3	sal,sisue	2001/2002
46.	Dundra Gaira	6,7,8	15.8	281	1258	2	3	chilaune	2001/2002
47.	Pashim Andhari	5	68.4	138	640	3	2	sal,saj	2001/2002
48.	Sarange	5	71.69	87	403	2	1	sal,sisue	2001/2002
49.	Sirise pakha	2	42.96	58	338	1	1	chilaune	2001/2002
50.	Khamaripakha	5	6.78	87	350	13	13	sal,saj	2001/2002
51.	Chyandanda	5	5.72	40	175	11	4	sal,sisue	2001/2002
52.	Tendugaira	8	6.04	62	342	11	4	chilaune	2001/2002
53.	Dhodra	4	38.94	82	414	13	9	sal,saj	2001/2002
54.	Patal	3	40.58	108	438	0	13	sal,sisue	2001/2002
55.	Nurini	6	11	135	651	0	0	chilaune	2001/2002
56.	Netrawoti	2	52.62	25	167	0	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
57.	Sandkhola	2	44.9	56	302	0	0	sal,sisue	2001/2002
58.	Jwalamukhi	7	6.54	56	302	0	3	chilaune	2001/2002
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>477.86</b>	<b>1443</b>	<b>7032</b>		<b>56</b>		
<b>Khalte V.D.C</b>									
59.	Bhasme		60.66	132	830	8	5	sal,saj	2001/2002
60.	Kalika		195	274	1648	2	2	sal,sisue	2001/2002
61.	Chhappaun	4	9.05	38	204	6	3	chilaune	2001/2002
62.	Dundapakha	7,8	16.18	94	660	1	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
63.	kattikepakha	4	9.83	53	330	5	3	sal,sisue	2001/2002
64.	Shree manakalika	5	102.19	104	573	0	0	chilaune	2001/2002
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>392.91</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>4245</b>		<b>13</b>		
<b>Jyamrung V.D.C</b>									
65.	Mahakhola	2	7.52	41	243	7	4	sal,saj	2001/2002
66.	Patela	6	38.42	188	1195	2	1	sal,sisue	2001/2002
67.	patle		2.96	25	167	0	0	chilaune	2001/2002
68.	Sat tale tapu	7	66	100	500	0	1	sal,saj	2001/2002
69.	Paleko	7	17.52	94	459	0	2	sal,sisue	2001/2002

70.	sthanpati	6	6.94	44	278	0	0	chilaune	2001/2002
71.	Jaljala	8	47	150	964	0	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>186.36</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>3806</b>		<b>8</b>		
<b>Mulpani V.D.C</b>									
72.	Bhanjyang	2	8.15	33	220	5	4	chilaune	2001/2002
73.	Champdanda	2	7.64	33	220	5	4	sal,saj	2001/2002
74.	Chok Bhanjayang		25.75	31	196	1	1	sal,sisue	2001/2002
75.	Kafaldanda	2	5.2	23	163	3	1	chilaune	2001/2002
76.	Kulopakha	3	13.25	73	392	1	1	sal,saj	2001/2002
77.	olakepakha	3	6.13	53	351	0	0	sal,sisue	2001/2002
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>66.12</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1542</b>		<b>14</b>		
<b>Kiranchowk V.D.C</b>									
78.	Halogade	9	7.28	35	195	0	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
79.	Panchankayana	3	20.65	100	599	0	0	sal,sisue	2001/2002
80.	Lapse	8	13.32	38	243	0	0	chilaune	2001/2002
81.	salloghari	7	48.57	67	418	0	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
82.	Andhari	2	12.16	40	300	5	4	sal,sisue	2001/2002
83.	Badure	2	23.83	69	400	5	4	chilaune	2001/2002
84.	Patle	2,6	77.56	106	494	6	3	sal,saj	2001/2002
85.	Nakchcheda		26	39	253	2	9	sal,sisue	2001/2002
86.	Bageswori	6	23.52	57	333	7	2	chilaune	2001/2002
87.	Buddha	8	4.1	29	188	5	2	sal,saj	2001/2002
88.	Kalila	1	3.15	27	137	0	2	sal,sisue	2001/2002
89.	Raktakali	8	6	50	300	6	5	chilaune	2001/2002
90.	Rumta	8	10.83	25	200	11	5	sal,saj	2001/2002
91.	Kahare	8	17.44	50	309	9	5	sal,sisue	2001/2002
92.	ganessthan	9	11.1	52	353	11	4	chilaune	2001/2002
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>305.51</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>4722</b>		<b>43</b>		
<b>Khari V.D.C</b>									
93.	Bajare	1	7.39	18	83	7	7	sal,sisue	1999/2000
94.	Jhandadevi	2	28.84	98	563	11	11	chilaune	1999/2000
95.	Astari	2	4.89	28	168	9	9	sal,saj	1999/2000
96.	Thakuridanda	6	0.48	13	81	5	2	sal,sisue	1999/2000
97.	Patal sim chisani	6	21.6	51	336	9	4	chilaune	1999/2000
98.	buddhipur	5	18.6	71	388	9	3	sal,saj	1999/2000
99.	Duluwanthan	6	22.64	52	331	9	4	sal,sisue	1999/2000
100.	Katuse	6	4.23	29	180	9	9	chilaune	1999/2000
101.	bangesal	5	25.82	86	537	9	4	sal,saj	1999/2000
102.	Mandali	6	8.72	58	332	9	9	sal,sisue	1999/2000
103.	juredhunga	6	7.17	29	189	7	3	chilaune	1999/2000
104.	Thumkipakha	3	5.68	113	540	6	3	sal,saj	2001/2002
105.	Archale	1,2	47.44	86	495	2	1	sal,sisue	2001/2002
106.	Bhalayo Danda	8	8.67	86	547	3	4	chilaune	2001/2002
107.	Bichare	4	12.25	115	613	2	0	sal,saj	2001/2002
108.	Deaurali	8	30.45	86	547	4	2	sal,sisue	2001/2002
109.	Devisthan	1,2	73.69	113	647	2	1	chilaune	2001/2002
110.	Nangurung	7	3.8	57	287	4	3	sal,saj	2001/2002
111.	Okhalepani	3	4.19	99	521	2	0	sal,sisue	2001/2002
112.	Aamdanda		205.25	237	1925	2	1	chilaune	2001/2002
113.	Pragatsail	1	12.19	95	453	0	3		2001/2002
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>553.99</b>	<b>1620</b>	<b>9763</b>		<b>83</b>		
<b>Dhusa V.D.C.</b>									
114.	Galbangdi	1	11.4	78	434	0	0	sal,	1999/2000
115.	Barbhai	1	96	203	1124	0	0	sal, chilaune	1999/2000
116.	Tapre	1	31.64	63	364	0	0	sal,	1999/2000

117.	Nagpani	2	37	54	344	0	0	sal, chilaune	1999/2000
118.	Bai dosh Towakani	2	29.25	29	192	0	0	sal,chil	1999/2000
119.	Madhubas	2	38.4	37	208	0	0	sal,chila	1999/2000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>243.69</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>2666</b>		<b>0</b>		
<b>Salang V.D.C</b>									
120.	bangdeep	6	45.46	125	480	7	4		2001/2002
<b>Benighat V.D.C</b>									
121.	Paleko	2	14.58	61	374	9	9	sa,katus chil.	1999/2000
122.	Richwok	3	32.38	123	710	11	4	sa,katus chilune	1999/2000
123.	Khahare	2	27.68	49	301	13	3	sal,katu chilun	1999/2000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>74.64</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>1011</b>		<b>16</b>		
<b>Naubise V.D.C</b>									
124.	Gauthalbhirkhani Likhudhushini	8	17.1	41	263	7	3	chilaune mohani	1999/2000
125.	Likhudhushini	8	175	61	350	13	4	chilaunemohani	1999/2000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>192.1</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>613</b>		<b>7</b>		
<b>Jivanpur V.D.C</b>									
126.	Patal	9	32.2	190	1088	13	4	sal,saj	1999/2000
127.	Deupuje	9	7.12	98	512	11	5	sal,sisue	1999/2000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>39.14</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>1600</b>		<b>9</b>		
<b>Goganpani V.D.C.</b>									
128.	Simpani	92.17	76	434	9	4		sal,saj	1999/2000
129.	Panchankanya	7	10.58	58	395	9	4	sal,sisue	1999/2000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>86.58</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>404</b>		<b>4</b>		
<b>Kebalpur V.D.C</b>									
130.	Chyandanda	4	1.12	21	171	9	5	sal,saj	1999/2000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>1.12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>171</b>		<b>5</b>		
<b>Jogimara V.D.C</b>									
131.	Suryamukhi	9	47	105	395	11	5	chilaune	1999/2000
132.	Aamdanda		205.25	237	1925	2	1	sal,saj	1999/2000
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>252.25</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>2320</b>		<b>6</b>		
<b>Kalleri V.D.c</b>									
133.	Kapritr	9	73.02	91	551	2	4	chilau	2000/2001
134.	Andharikhola	4,5	61.1	77	448	6	3	sal,saj	2000/2001
135.	Ghangrelekh	4	117.66	138	820	2	2	sal, sisue	2000/2001
136.	Dharmadwar	5,6,7	70.38	277	1672	5	2	chilau ne	2000/2001
137.	kalikadevi	6	103.31	138	698	4	2	sal,saj	2000/2001
138.	Gurance Paicha	8	47	150	278	0	0	sal,sisue	2000/2001
139.	malebhir	7	16.18	277	1980	6	3	chilau ne	2000/2001
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>488.65</b>	<b>1148</b>	<b>6447</b>		<b>16</b>		
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>4496.38 ha</b>	<b>11539</b>	<b>68045</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>369</b>		

#### Female involvement in FUG committees = 37%

Note: Other three CF are ready to hand over. The area of CF is 237 ha. Hence, the total area of CF handed over is 4733 ha. and the total beneficiaries are 69953. In total female involvement in FUC is 38%.

### Key Result 3: Women's Development

*Women and men will share in decision making and leadership roles in all aspects of community development activities.*

#### Bimala at a crossroad in her life.

Bimala Bardeba, the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. Mehar Man Bardeba, lives in Kupinde village Kiranchowk VDC Ward 7. She is from a poor and so called lower caste family. When she was a child she went to school, but could not continue due to the poor economic status of her family and other family problems. Now she is just literate. Before DRMP, she was like any other woman in a marginalised rural society.

After DRMP's awareness raising among the marginalised, the lower caste people have become organized and have formed a VDC level forum for their upliftment. Bimala has been playing a key role in the forum as the secretary. She is also a member of the cultural team and is actively involved in the awareness programme.

In Kiranchowk, a bamboo stool (Muda) making training was organized after a request from 6 young people including Bimala. She performed very well and can now make a well-finished stool. After other people saw this training they requested it to be repeated. However DRMP only had 1 trainer with the expertise to run the training. This was not enough for training a larger number of people. Kiranchowk based field staff proposed Bimala as the trainer, however DRMP was concerned that whilst she had the technical skills, she may not have the confidence to train others. So DRMP sent her as a counterpart and she delivered the training confidently. After that, DRMP gave her full responsibility to conduct the same training in Kiranchowk and she did a very good job.

Now Bimala is very confident and skilful. She has earned about NRs 5000 from the sale of stools and from being a trainer. She has financially supported her family. Bimala is very thankful to DRMP because it has made a great contribution to change her life status. She is very happy to work for the welfare of marginalised women and is ready to face challenges for social change.

Submitted by Bhuban B.K.

Key Result 3 focuses on women's development within the context of all of DRMP's activities. DRMP has organized various programs and activities especially for women. This was in order that women would grow in their self-confidence in a supportive environment, and in an atmosphere of trust with other women. Women-focused activities included the celebration of International Women's Day, a workshop supporting the District HIMAWANTI and VDC elected female members, and trainings given especially for women.

However, women's empowerment has little effect if it is only developed in an isolated, women-only environment. The role that women can play must be recognized by all of society, especially those they interact with on a daily basis. Therefore DRMP sought to ensure awareness of women's empowerment needs in all of its activities at community level.

### **Women's Involvement in Project Activities:**

S.N	Activities	No of Women	Training Days	Venue
1.	VDC elected Female member workshop	223	30	Goganpani kebalpur Jeevanpani
2.	Women Leadership workshop	159	28	chainpur goganpani
3.	91 <sup>st</sup> International Women's day	(5000)	1	Dhading
4.	Female group facilitator selection	72	3	Dhading, Gajuri
<b>TRAINING</b>				Dhading
5.	Introduction to 'HIMAWANTI' WORKSHOP	13	Dhading, Gajuri	Dhading
6.	VDC Orientation workshop	36	1	Dhading, Gajuri
7.	Leadership Training for VDC elected women	48	2	Dhading
8.	Leadership and Gender in development training	81	3	Dhading, Gajuri
9.	RCE facilitator training and tour	22	1	Dhading
10.	RCE facilitator refresher training	4	1	Dhading, Gajuri
11.	RCE class attendance	1507	12	
12.	Saving and credit training	1	1	Nablaparasi
13.	CF workshops for women (khalte, Kiranchowk)	61	2	Khalte, Kiranchowk
14.	Mudha making Training	13	1	Dhading
15.	Project planning and management	75	2	Dhading, Gajuri
16.	NTFP conservation and cultivation awareness workshop	14	1	Dhading
17.	Off season vegetable cultivation training	14	1	Dhading, Gajuri
18.	Fruit cultivation and management training	41	2	Dhading
19.	Nursery training	4	1	Dhading, Gajuri
20.	operational plan reflection training	89	3	Dhading
21.	Commercial vegetable farming training	6	6	Gajuri
22.	RCE facilitator refresher training	22	5	Gajuri
23.	Kitchen garden training	52	2	Khari, Aginchowk, Mulpani
24.	Smokeless stove making training	14	3	Chainpur, Gajuri, Pokhara
25.	Community Training record (skilled based forestry based training)	244	166(30event)	Chainpur, Gajuri, Pokhara
256.	VLCC training and formation	9	1	Khallte, Bhdhathum, Kalleri
27.	Mudha making training	36	3	Agincvhowk, mulpani, Bhudhathum
28.	Account and record keeping training for FUG members	20	3	Khari, Chainpur
	Total	2880	228	

## Women's Roles in DRMP Activities

### Women as group facilitators

One woman from each community, 72 women in total, have been chosen by their community as group facilitators. They co-lead the regular monthly DRMP staff activities, running workshops and meetings to develop their leadership skills, and supporting CDG meetings in their communities. They then share these skills by helping their CDGs in the implementation of activities. They make a valuable contribution to the work of the CDG, having improved their own sense of self-worth.

### Leadership and gender in development training

A 3-day training was conducted in 6 VDCs for both male and female group facilitators. A total of 81 women participated in the training from all VDCs. Most participants had not attended any kind of training before. So their participation was very enthusiastic. They are now clear about the concept of community development and gender in development. All participants realized that both men and women need to participate equally in community development activities. Action plans were prepared at the end of the training.

The training coordinator and women's development coordinator facilitated these trainings, while CAT field staff participated as observers.

VDC	# OF EVENT	PARTICIPANTS		TOTAL
		MALE	FEMALE	
Mulpani	1	13	15	28
Khari	1	13	14	27
Khalte	1	14	13	27
Salang	1	12	11	23
Aginchowk	1	10	14	24
Budhathum	1	18	14	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>161</b>

### Women as RCE facilitators and Participants

81 RCE classes have been running in the 12 new VDCs and 44 women attended RCE facilitators' training to run RCE classes. This training lasted 10 days. There were 4 female participants in the refresher course. Within the Formation Phase areas, of the 1643 participants who completed the RCE classes, 1507 were female.

In total, there were 1892 RCE participants of which only 220 were men. This is because men are generally already literate to a certain degree, whereas many women have not had the opportunity to become literate. They are now literate at a basic level. The women involved said the benefits to them include being able to sign their name and being able to teach their children. When they go out of their villages they are able to read signs to know where they are and which bus to travel on.

### Women Involved in Community Forestry

During the project period, community forest two-day workshops for women were organized. Most female members were not aware about CF and their roles and responsibilities as CFUG members. It was therefore crucial to run this workshop, as it is generally women who collect forest products, such



as fuel and fodder on daily basis in the forest. They are therefore crucial in determining the quality of forest. The workshop also acted as a forum to raise awareness of women's authority, gender issues and community development activities.

### **Women & IGA**

Women were encouraged to develop income-generating skills. Stool (mudha) making trainings and Nylon bag weaving trainings were organized during the DRMP project period. Following the trainings, they have started to make and sell stools and bags in their free time. This gives them some independent income.

## Key Result 4: Income Generation

*Community groups and FUGs will undertake rural income generating activities based on local agro-forestry resources.*

### Off Season Vegetable Farming - Jaubari and Dhodeni villages, Khari VDC

Jaubari and Dhodeni are Gurung communities in Khari VDC. Before DRMP started work in Khari VDC there was no other project working there. Therefore when DRMP staff first visited these villages the people were very glad. They thought that DRMP staff ‘carried development in their pockets’ and would just give development out, so their poverty would go far away. However DRMP does not bring development from outside, but formed groups in these villages that met regularly so the community themselves could analyze their problems and discuss how to solve them.

As part of this process agricultural issues were discussed, including vegetable farming. At that point the communities sold raksi (local alcoholic drink brewed from rice) and bought vegetables from the market. However they decided that they wanted to learn how to grow vegetables and DRMP ran training on Off Season Vegetable farming and provided a 50% subsidy on seed. Nowadays they have started to produce onions, potatoes, and garlic, chilly. They now sell them in other villages instead of raksi. One vegetable that was new to them was Simi (Beans). Now they produce it all the year round. There is plenty to use both for their own meals and to sell. They exchange it in the local market for salt, oil, soap and spices.

Last Friday I met Dali Gurung on the way to the market with a bag of beans. She said that she was so happy that DRMP had come and helped them to see this new way. Then she sighed as she thought of the situation 2 years ago when DRMP had arrived and they had just wanted money from DRMP. “We did not want seed as our hens would eat it. However through your work self-realization came, we planted the seed and now we have sustainable resource of bean.”

Nowadays you meet many others like Dailies on the way to market to sell beans.

Submitted by Krishna Kattel

DRMP supports income Generation Activities (IGA) to improve the economic status of the poor and marginalised, especially activities focused on local agro-forestry resources. DRMP's strategy is to support the communities IGA mainly through providing skills-based training with some material input. DRMP classifies IGA in three categories.

- Forestry based IGA
- Agriculture based IGA
- Skill based (off farm) IGA

Forest based IGA	Agriculture based IGA	Skill based IGA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NTFP cultivation 3+1</li> <li>• Bamboo stool making training-6</li> <li>• Bamboo propagation training-2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetable seed training/distribution</li> <li>• Potato seed distribution</li> <li>• Stud goat distribution</li> <li>• Commercial veg.farming training</li> <li>• Kitchen gardening training-2</li> <li>• Off season vegetable cultivation training</li> <li>• sericulture training</li> <li>• Fruit cultivation and management training</li> <li>• Goat raising training</li> <li>• Bee keeping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nylon bag weaving training-1</li> <li>• black smiths training-1</li> <li>• Hosiery training-2</li> </ul>

### **Forestry based IGA:**

#### **1. NTFP cultivation**

A feasibility study of NTFPs and their potential was undertaken in the Mahabharat range of Kiranchowk, Bairani and Bhumisthan VDCs and communities have started NTFP cultivation in their community forests. Thadokhola Deurali (of Bhumisthan), Koili Kharka (of Bairani) and Mahadev Kharka (of Kiranchowk) started to cultivate NTFP's in nurseries, collecting the seeding from the forest. Bojho, chiratio, cardamom and Lemongrass, are the main planted species. This programme is an extension of the successful pilot programme started in Naubise VDC. RIMS has now secured funding from The Uniting Churches in the Netherlands (UCN) for a new 3 year NTFP programme which is following up on the pilot programme and extending into 5 additional VDC's.

#### **2. Bamboo stool (Mudha) making training**

Considering the local bamboo material availability in the community and market accessibility, DRMP organized 3 events of mudha making training in 3 VDCs. A total of 43 persons participated in the training. The training was mainly practical and skill-based. Local resource persons from Kiranchowk VDC facilitated the training. Over half of the trainees are already making mudha and selling them in the villagers.

#### **3. Bamboo propagation training**

This was provided to 7 representatives from FUGs as a practical based training, facilitated by an experienced trainer from RDC, Pokhara. After the training all participants have established bamboo nurseries in their own locality.

### **Agriculture Based IGA:**

#### **1. Vegetable seed training/distribution**

During the DRMP period, after conducting the orientation on kitchen gardening, vegetable seeds were distributed to 29 CDGs. Green vegetables are now widely produced from kitchen gardens, both for improving families' own diets, and for selling surplus crops.

## **2. Stud seed distribution**

Most of the DRMP project area has good potential for livestock farming, especially goat raising. Community group members have traditionally raised goats for income generation, but improved goat breeds have not been introduced. DRMP has provided stud goats for breeding to nine community groups.

## **2. Potato seed distribution**

Mulpani and Aginchowk VDCs have good potential for potato cultivation. One CDG from each of these VDCs has requested support to purchase potato seed at 50% subsidy. 29 households from 2 CDGs have been supplied with 860 kg. potato seeds, all of which has been planted.

## **3. Commercial vegetable farming training**

Dhading district has good potential for commercial fruit and vegetable farming. Many farmers from VDCs adjoining the main road head are starting to produce vegetables on a commercial scale. Among the 12 VDCs of DRMPs working area, Kalleri, Salang, and Khalte have the greatest potential for commercial vegetable farming. Although they have been starting to grow vegetables on a commercial scale, due to lack of knowledge and technical skills they had been unable to cope with attacks of insects pests and diseases on their crops. To provide some technical knowledge on commercial vegetable farming, DRMP organized a 6 days commercial vegetable farming training to 23 farmers from Kalleri, Salang and Khalte VDCs.

## **4. Kitchen gardening training**

Some CDGs have requested winter vegetable seeds at a subsidized rate. Before distributing the vegetable seeds to the CDGs, the project organized 5 events of basic training to 103 farmers. The main topics of the trainings included the importance of kitchen gardening, methods of seed production, seed bed preparation, transplanting of the seedling and introducing integrated pest management. After the training, DRMP provided vegetable seeds with a 50% subsidy, now fresh vegetables are being widely produced in kitchen gardens in these areas.

## **6. Off season vegetable cultivation training**

A three-day off-season vegetable cultivation training was organized for 16 people in Khari VDC. Now they are producing vegetables and earning money from their sales (see case study above).

## **7. Fruit cultivation and management training and distribution**

DRMP provided fruit saplings to groups in Bhudhathum, Bairani and Kiranchowk VDCs. However follow up monitoring this year found that due to the lack of knowledge and experience, many farmers had planted the seedling incorrectly with some seedlings dying from damping off. In some places replanting took place according to the preferences of the DRMP agriculture technicians.

Therefore, a two-day training was held during January 2001 in each of the 3 VDCs, and a feasibility study was carried out. Temperate fruit saplings were identified as appropriate for the area and 637 low chilling apple and pear species were distributed.

DRMP also provided 2 days fruit management and cultivation training for group leaders in Khlate, Kalleri, Mulpani, and Aginchowk VDCs, between February and April 2001. At the end of the training, participants prepared an action plan and requested different fruit saplings. DRMP provided fruit saplings according to the climate of group members' land, including citrus species, mango, litchi, and banana.

## **Skill Based IGA**

### **1. Nylon bag weaving training**

DRMP has been organizing various programs for rural women, such as knowledge based (awareness raising) and skill-based training. DRMP organized a nylon bag weaving training for women. This type of bag is in much demand in both urban and rural areas. It is hoped that after the training the women will be able to produce different bag designs. This 10-day residential training was conducted at the Gajuri office for 20 women participants.

### **2. Blacksmiths' Training**

DRMP has conducted 2 months of Blacksmith skill development training to enable traditional Kamis (Low caste traditional blacksmiths) to construct improved agricultural tools like plough blades, spades (kodalo), khukuri knives and artistic khukuri knives for tourists. For this training DRMP provided the resource person and raw materials. Participants contributed their time. At the end of the training, participants prepared an action plan for continuously running the scheme to earn more from their skills. Now the participants are skillful and can make the items, producing marketable products. It has supported them to their livelihood.

### **3. Hosiery Training**

A three-month skill-based training provided by HMG/N for 13 women, with DRMP financial support. These women are now producing various woolen articles and selling them as an IGA.

## Key Result 5: Institutional Development

*FUGs and other local institutions will plan, implement and evaluate activities that benefit members and clients on a sustainable basis.*

### Footpath improvement by Todke CD Group. Bhumisthan VDC

Todke is situated high up on the Bhumisthan ridge at around 2000m– it takes at least 3 hours to reach from Madhev Besi on the Kathmandu-Pokhara highway. Todke has 19 households and was selected as a focus community when DRMP started activities in Bhumisthan VDC 2 years ago. It is a Tamang community with many people in a *hand to mouth* situation – less than 4 months food sufficiency per year. The soil fertility is acutely poor, resulting in meager crop yields and little return for their efforts. Yet these poor people have united and demonstrated their ability to work together, in trying to solve some common problems and difficulties, which they face in daily life.

The footpath coming up to the ridge at Todke is their main access route and is also used by villagers from Makwanpur District coming over into Dhading District. There is a particular section of the footpath, which is extremely steep and difficult. It is virtually impossible for livestock to pass this particular section, which has created difficulties and missed opportunities for the Todke people. They have tried many times to build steps to improve the path, but during the monsoon most of their efforts have been washed away.

During discussions when planning what they felt was their most pressing need in the Todke CD Group, the footpath was number one priority. DRMP Community Support Fund provided funds to purchase cement, which was approved by Bhumisthan FLCC. They also approached and received funds to purchase cement from Small Farmers Development office and the Bhumisthan VDC. In addition to providing voluntary labor for carrying cement, sand from the river and stones for building the footpath, the Todke people also raised funds themselves for purchasing cement. The table shows the total cost of the footpath improvement and contributions:

DRMP	VDC	SFDP	Todke CD Group	Voluntary labour	TOTAL:
Rs: 6300	2000	2240	960	75,000	<b>Rs:86,500</b>
Cement: 20 bags	6 bags	7 bags	3 bags		

All work has now been completed and the result is an excellent example of how a local community can work together, utilize available resources and improve their lives. The new path has 115 steps, built to last and which will be able to withstand heavy use and monsoon rain. The Tordke people and their animals are now able to walk safely along this steep section of the footpath.

### **Community development activities carried out by FUGs/CDG.**

Activities	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	Total
Drinking water system	-	-	29	56	85
Toilet Construction	602	629	16	-	1247
School Building construction	-	3	-	-	3
Communitu buliding construction	2	3	-	--	5
Tole sanitaion	1	29	11	41	82
Footpath/trail maintain construction	1.5k.m.	42commitee	10	-	53(33.5K.m)
RCE community building construction	-	5	-	-	5
Total					1480

#### **1. Training to FUGs**

DRMP organized various trainings and workshops for FUGs for institutional and technical development.

##### **1.2 Operational plan Reflection Training/ Workshop**

This training was designed to reflect on the operational plan and constitution ensuring that all present understood and could explain to others their content. It was an opportunity to promote better understanding of institutional and technical aspects of forest user group management and to ensure that people understood their roles and responsibilities related to Community Forestry. In total, 17 training events were conducted.

##### **1.3 Accounts and Record keeping training:**

5 days of accounts and record keeping training was organized in Khari, Chainpur, Bairani, and Khari. The training formed a part of the institutional development of the FUGs.

##### **1.4 Forest Management Training:**

This forest based practical training was conducted in 6 VDCs, Khari, Chainpur, Kiranchowk, Bhumisthan, Khalte and Bhudhathum. Forest pruning tools were distributed during the training.

#### **2. Approval of Forest User Group Operational Plan Revision:**

Chandra Jyoti Youth club, in Goganpani VDC, requested that DRMP would support them in revising 2 expired operational plans. DRMP provided a forest technician to work alongside youth club members who collected the social data required. Also, RIMS and DRMP have facilitated 9 additional OP revisions in the NTFP working areas (see appendix).

#### **3. VLCC Meetings:**

A VDC Level FUG coordination Committee (VLCC) has been formed in all 12 VDCs of DRMP. All the FUGs in a VDC have membership of the VLCC. The VDC being the permanent and responsible institution is also represented in the VLCC. The main function of the VLCC is networking of FUGs. The VLCC is also a forum for:

- Sharing of FUG activities with in the VDC.
- Carrying out the forest development and community development activities alongside FUGs.
- Conflict resolution management among the FUGs.
- Lobbying and advocacy.
- Monitoring and supervision of the FUGs with in the VDCs.

- Mobilization of DRMP Development Fund.

The VLCC has therefore been playing a key role in prioritizing and internalizing the community development activities undertaken by FUGs.

#### **4. Inter FUG Quiz contest:**

Khari VLCC organized a VDC level inter FUG quiz contest. All the 12 FUGs of the VDC participated in the contest. Questions were asked relating to CF policy, forest law, their OP and constitution and subject matter covered during the recent accounts and book keeping training. The competition was very interesting and useful for the FUG members. The winners were awarded with stationary and useful books for their FUG.

#### **Support to LNGOs:**

Chandra Jyoti Yuba, Goganpani, has taken part in several training workshops and facilitated at the Environment Day celebrations, the street race was organized by them. DRMP had also supported the VLCCs, FEPS and HIMAWANTI groups.



## Drinking water system Constructions in Dhading Working Area.

No.	Village Name	Ward	Total hh	Total population	Community contribution	Project Cost
<b>Baireni V.D.C.</b>						
1.	Machedi	8	10	68	36800	42637
2.	Koilikharka	4	54	249	143900	187758
3.	Birtadanda	5	20	162	88200	75321
4.	Lapsedanda	5	26	130	98200	58652
5.	chilunekharka	4	20	136	74700	96802
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>130</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>441800</b>	<b>461170</b>
<b>Khalte V.D.C</b>						
1.	Syaldanda	2	30	206	99300	48596
2.	paherechhap	2	34	236	69700	27698
3.	Unikharka	8	30	169	116900	91517
4.	Chhaptallo	4	18	126	148000	93276
5.	Gairebasha	7	40	248	87800	84933
6.	Dandabasha	7	40	224	72000	67188
7.	Dandagaun	4	215	1484	17700	26808
8.	Devasthan	4	32	178	63600	62792
9.	Chhap Mathi	4	18	126	12500	13032
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>457</b>	<b>2997</b>	<b>687500</b>	<b>515840</b>
<b>Kalleri V.D.C.</b>						
1.	Dandagaun mathillo	6	16	100	31550	30586
2.	Dandagaun Tallo	6	16	92	31550	25704
3.	Torikharka	4/5	28	168	47900	51556
4.	Raitole				6200	6332
5.	Pokharithok	7	29	90	22500	11369
6.	Archale	4	18	123	23700	25630
7.	Ghartigaun	7	17	122	26000	9111.43
8.	Dharapani	6	16	110	24700	11239
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>140</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>214100</b>	<b>171527</b>
<b>salang V.D.c</b>						
1.	Amkot	1	37	247	102200	67114
2.	Kamalabari	4	30	193	84700	60933
3.	Dawadi tole	4	15	103	21600	31598
4.	Fakfuk	8	42	210	53000	85770
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>124</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>261500</b>	<b>245415</b>
<b>Mulpani V.D.C</b>						
1.	Khop	1	20	138	94500	91270
2.	gargare	2	10	60	12200	9651
3.	Odare				44400	28211
4.	Ghimire gaun mathillo	9	9	77	30400	40747
5.	Ghimire gaun Tallo	9	11	95	37200	49899
6.	Ramrichaur	5	16	9	35800	50194
7.	Dandatole	8	31	186	34900	22418
8.	Tallotole				48800	33825
9.	Sarkigaun	2	10	70	39500	20668
10.	Sarkitole				16700	12844
11.	Arukha	3	18	109	-	6626
12.	Tallodandabari	8	29	174	24600	26208
13.	Kamitole	4	8	45	12800	11583
<b>Sub Totla</b>			<b>162</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>431800</b>	<b>404144</b>
<b>Bhudhathum V.D.C</b>						
1.	Hattya	8/9	141	846	442700	298074
2.	Pithhe	6	30	223	104600	64681
3.	Bagmara	5	19	110	98800	68365
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>190</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>646100</b>	<b>431120</b>
<b>Aginchowk V.D.C</b>						
1.	Diyalashawara	5	14	98	126900	34308
2.	Chhaphthok				-	57315
3.	Chhathok Kuwa	6	28	140	19700	19531
4.	Piple	7	18	90	38800	41125
5.	Indradevi	9	36	216	14100	39507
6.	Newargaun/sarkigaun(setidevi)	4	19	112	95400	41614
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>115</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>294900</b>	<b>233400</b>

<b>Jyamrung V.D.C</b>						
1.	Boshigaun	8	31	165	41500	23255
2.	Simle	3	71	426	45000	27066
3.	Bharmale	5	52	263	76100	6336
4.	Thapagaun		16	92	29332	27930.92
5.	Thulopandhro		11	82	11088	12087
6.	Newartole		15	103	32515	36038
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>196</b>	<b>1131</b>	<b>235535</b>	<b>109457</b>
<b>Bhumistha V.D.C.</b>						
1.	Thadokhola-I	2	32	192	115150	89736
2.	gairetole		30	206	48811	50063
3.	Mathilloghari		25	185	62801	57941
4.	Devisthan	8	36	185	25613	22788.97
5.	Shikhar Katero	8	25	135	13511	17838.57
6.	Thadokhola-II	2	12	85	81518	79899.08
7.	Tapure	9	school	200	78615	74626.09
8.	Deurali namrung	3		200	2381	2418.37
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>160</b>	<b>1388</b>	<b>428400</b>	<b>395303</b>
<b>Chainpur V.D.C.</b>						
1.	Badhare		21	185	63000	66242
2.	Ekaltar		26	192	63000	66242
3.	Arykharka		18	135	23815	22379
4.	Sandhbhaynanjyang		12	106	13788	14756
5.	Dumregaire		13	85	8608	9214
6.	Damaigaun(Chhatuni)		12	76	15508	14257
7.	Chhappaun		13	86	9872	11736
8.	dharapani		6	46	3072	1477
9.	Magigaun		19	135	23588	21361
<b>Sub total</b>			<b>140</b>	<b>1046</b>	<b>215729</b>	<b>227664</b>
<b>Khari V.D.c</b>						
1.	Kudhar		13	91	17892	15326.53
2.	Dhodani		12	84	10908	11618.97
3.	Maghgaun		9	50	12378	9473
4.	Damaidanda		15	103	12505	11864.60
5.	gaubari		28	168	18318	21224.13
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>77</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>72001</b>	<b>69505</b>
<b>Kiranchowk V.D.C.</b>						
1.	Gyalgune	5	11	95	58325	61362.13
2.	Mathilo dovankharka	4	20	168	62301	66802
3.	Tallo dovankharka	4	8	45	66502	58073
4.	Majhuwa	2	10	70	152301	147003
5.	Garapur	8	11	90	72005	67827
6.	bhalukhop	7	18	136	66000	74792
7.	Tinghare	5	14	98	135200	147715
8.	Thumkidanda	5	30	193	65020	59266
9.	salle	2	29	174	8850	99304
<b>sub Total</b>			<b>151</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>685604</b>	<b>782144</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>2042</b>	<b>12895</b>	<b>4614369</b>	<b>5590695</b>

**United Mission to Nepal**  
**Dhading Resource Management Project**  
**Development activities carried out by CDG/FUG**

S.N.	VDC	#of groups		#of activities by local resource			# if activities by project support						Awareness raising activities							Remarks	
		CDG	FUG	Latrine	Foot trail	DWS sanitation	DWS	IGA					#RCE			drama	campaign	video show			
								#	BF HH	BK HH	KGHH	GRHH	CCHH	#	M				F		Total
				#	com.	com.	#							#	participants						
1.	Khari	15	22	241	9	13	9	321	1	118	39	401	6	118	15	133	2	15	2		
2.	Salang	12	1	120	3	12	4	122	5	120	4	201	9	15	194	209	2	9	0		
3.	Mulpani	11	6	178	1	11	13	322	0	49	4	73	7	13	153	166	2	9	0		
4.	Aginchowk	13	6	105	8	13	6	346	1	60	4	103	8	14	132	146	2	8	0		
5.	jyamrung	10	7	157	7	10	6	271	1	68	3	98	5	5	111	116	2	8	3		
6.	Chainpur	14	15	293	6	10	9	146	2	80	2	110	6	0	148	148	2	13	2		
7.	Kalleri	12	7	267	12	12	8	133	2	195	3	158	7	27	131	158	2	10	0		
8.	Khalte	13	6	187	13	13	9	496	4	189	44	199	7	6	162	168	2	10	0		
9.	kiranchowk	9	15	238	10	10	9	158	0	50	0	73	7	59	119	178	2	17	2		
10.	Bhudhathm	11	8	184	11	11	3	181	2	73	4	146	8	27	166	193	2	12	0		
11.	Baireni	11	13	243	14	14	5	130	0	30	0	307	7	26	151	177	2	13	2		
12.	Bhumisthan	11	17	150	10	10	8	265	1	20	22	235	4	13	87	100	2	16	2		
	Total	142	123	2693	113	139	85	2891	19	1052	129	2104	81	323	1569	1892	24	140	13		

CDG: Community Development Group  
IGA: Income Generation Activities  
CC: cash Croup's  
HH: House hold

FUG: Forrest User Group  
BK: Bee Keeping  
RCE: Resource Conservation Education Class  
Com: Community

BF: Beneficiary  
KG: Kitchen Garden  
GR. : Goat Raising  
Part: participants  
M: Male

DWS: Drinking Water System  
GR. : Goat Raising  
Part: participants  
F: Female

## Resource Conservation Education Record

FY 98/99 to 01/02

S. N.	VDC	#of calass	#of participants enrolled			# of Participants completed			Function activities done
			Male	Fem ale	Total	Male	Femal e	Total	
1.	Khari	6	15	118	133	11	110	121	Installation of Smokeless stove, Kitchen gardening tole and drinking water system sanitation able to speak in a mass, Forest protection participation in it group meeting and decision making process, start income generation activities.
2.	Aginchowk	8	24	132	146	8	123	131	
3.	Baireni	7	26	151	177	17	128	145	
4.	Bhumisthan	4	13	87	100	4	68	72	
5.	Budhathum	8	27	166	193	14	139	153	
6.	Chainpur	6	0	148	148	0	135	135	
7.	Jyamrung	5	5	111	116	2	98	100	
8.	kalleri	7	27	131	158	16	126	142	
9.	Khalte	7	6	162	168	2	154	156	
10.	Kiranchowk	7	59	119	178	45	100	145	
11.	mulpani	7	13	153	166	8	142	150	
12.	salang	9	15	194	209	9	184	193	
	Total	81	220	1672	1892	136	1507	1643	

### ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHANGES

- Ø Successful completion of DRMP
- Ø 139 community forests handed over to related forest user groups and three CF are ready to hand over (see following table for details) involving 68045 users.
- Ø 4496 ha. of HMG forest land handed over to FUG.
- Ø Good coordination and linkage between HMG staff and FUGS.
- Ø Generally good participation in activities by men and women. In most areas along the roadside and in other project areas changes in landscape are noticeable and communities are keen to develop well-managed forest where only degraded forest was found before. Wildlife is also increasing.
- Ø FUG members feel ownership of their forests, and view them as assets to conserve and manage in a sustainable manner.
- Ø High demand for community forest due to demonstration effect of adjoining area forest.
- Ø 85 DWS were constructed during DRMP period (see DWS table) and handed over to communities. A total of 2042 Households have benefited from these.
- Ø 1247 toilets have been constructed in the DRMP working area.
- Ø Women were active in DRMP working activities. A total of 2880 women took part in 228 different trainings during the DRMP period.
- Ø Formed and started to work a staff NGO called RIMS-NEPAL (Resource Identification & Management Society -Nepal)
- Ø A district wide forest users groups database has been constructed, and data of all forest users groups has been entered at the District forest office.
- Ø VLCCs (VDClevel FUG coordination committees) were formed in all 12 VDCs of the DRMP working area, to develop and maintain local network and support systems amongst FUGs. 36% of VLCC members elected are women. Organizational skills training provided to VLCC members enable them to facilitate better ongoing activities.
- Ø Formation phase evaluation was completed successfully, which highlighted DRMP's considerable impact and achievements, both in terms of approach, targets and reputation.
- Ø Over all, during the 4 years of DRMP implementation in Dhading, DRMP has facilitated:
  - 161 CD Groups in marginalised communities, who have implemented 613 activities
  - 142 FUGs formed.

## **Pre-Formation Phase Evaluation 2001**

Objective: To review the DRMP pre-formation phase process and activities identifying the strengths and areas to be improved on order to make DRMP more effective and efficient in the future.

### **Support for the awareness raising programs.**

"Kei karyakram chhaina bato dekhaune matra"

"There is no program, just showing the way"

Prem Raj Tamang, Deurali Namrung CDG, Bhumisthan

There was widespread support for the awareness raising process and an acknowledgment that developing understanding is a necessary first in order to enable the marginalised members of the community to have a role in community decision making. It was said that although the result of awareness raising is unseen, it is extremely important. It was acknowledged that decisions in NRMP were made by the elite. Views on the length of time required varied from one year to more than two years.

### **Prioritizing of pre-formation activities**

CDG members prioritized the awareness raising activities as follows:

RCE class, peer educators, drama, group, formation, saving, and credit and CF orientation training.

### **The pressure to make the pre-formation time shorter**

There is a feeling within the project that the pre-formation time should be reduced, or more specifically that the FUG formation process should be initiated earlier. The reasons for this are:

- Ø Comments made at the project coordination meeting on 28.11.99 about focusing more directly on forestry in order to fulfill the targets.
- Ø Perceived pressure from the DOF and USAID because they are target focused
- Ø DRMP's targets for FUG formation is large and formation is currently behind the goal
- Ø DEMP's limited working time and the large working area
- Ø communities are already aware about CF and so can move ahead with FUG formation
- Ø Demonstration effects of work that if they form FUG's quickly then they could get other assistance sooner.
- Ø In the 2nd cycle VDC's some parts of the awareness programme are earlier.
- Ø Some communities have already have already been requesting programme are earlier.
- Ø Some communities have already been requesting 5th DFO for forest hand over.
- Ø DRMP may be one year shorter than planned. If the follow up project (RIMS) is only providing post-formation support, then the staff need to get groups to that stage.

### **The NARMSAP awareness raising programme**

Natural Resource management Sector Assistance programmes (NARMSAP) has a trail programme 2 women motivators working in a number of districts. Their min objective is pre-formation, and carries out home visit, support literacy classes and other CF awareness activities. One motivator works with about 10 potential of exiting FUG's for one year. This is about half the intensity of DRMP work in the future it would be interesting to compare the impact of the approach of the two approaches. To sate there has been no formal evaluation of the impact of their work.

### **Discussion**

"Bujhna ra nbujhana chuttai,nabujenelai chutaai bujhaunu parcha."

"You need to give more time to develop the awareness of those without understanding"

Bharat Rana,PE,TahpaGaun CDG,Jyamrung.

The timing of provision of material support to community groups

### **The principle of providing material support after FUG formation**

The views of most CDG members, community leaders and DRMP staff is that during the initial period of awareness raising there should be no material support. When people develop their own and commitment, then implementing development activities is easy. DRMP's aim to provide material support in the post-formation phase through the FUG's, but because of the short time available, support has been providing through CDG's.

### **Problems associated with this approach**

"jag khane pachi, chhana lagayarai chodnu parcha"

"You should not leave after digging the foundation, only after putting the roof on."

Ram Bahadur Gurung,Jaubari/Dhodani FUG, Khari

During the pre-formation period, the staff are saying that there is no material support available from the project and then when FUG formation staff arrive, they are suddenly saying there is, and this leads to a break in trust with the communities. The formation staff now informs the communities that there may be some support available but that they should also try with other agencies. A VDC chairman also reported that DRMP staffs say assistance will be available after 2 years, but those staff leave the VDC.

It is also reported that DRMP staff advised villagers to build temporary toilets, saying that later DRMP would provide support for permanent toilets. After almost 2 years this support has not been provided.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle VDC's the time period without material support being has been reduce to one year.

### **The VDC selection Process:**

The DDC chairmen, the VDC chairmen of the selected VDC's the DFO (at that time) and the DRMP project Director (at that time) all express satisfaction that the selection process was good and that appropriate VDC's were selected. Clear criteria and walking around 20 VDC's during the selection process contributed to the transparency of the process.

An NGO observer felt that the DDC chairmen took advice. He acknowledged that there was pressure from the DDC chairmen but that the final selection was good.

There were complaints from congress MPs and the national Democratic chairmen that the selection criteria for the biased.

VDC chairmen from those VDC's that were not selected commended that they were not aware of the process or the criteria for the selection.

The baseline data, shown in the 1998/1999 Annual report, of the five VDC's where pre-formation work was first started, shows that chainpur is in a slightly better condition in term of food sufficiency, and considerably better in terms of male and female literacy, than the other four VDC's. It could be argued that this was an inappropriate selection, and a senior United Mission to Nepal staff member conceded that there was some political pressure to select chainpur.

**Recommendation:** The process and criteria for the selection of VDC's should have been more transparent to all the VDC chairmen.

### **The community selection process:**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> cycle VDC's**

DRMP staff, VDC chairmen and CDG members all expressed that the selection process was followed according to the criteria and that the most marginalised groups were selected. There was pressure in some VDC's to select many more than the recommended number of communities. The numbers selected are discussed and the consequences are presented. Some VDC's also acknowledge that they introduce their own criteria that the selected communities should be distributed evenly across the wards. No obviously examples of inappropriate groups being selected or omitted were found.

Because of the project strategy of working with communities, and with individual households, small communities (10 or less) of marginalised household were found.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> cycle VDC's**

The selection process was revised based on the experience of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle. The revised process used a multi party meeting, rather than just elected representatives as this excluded some parties. Again some VDC's set their own criteria of 1 community ward were excluded from an adjacent group.

### **The appropriate number of community groups in a VDC**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> cycle VDC's**

Despite a targets to form approximately 10 CDG's in each VDC, up to 18 were selected 17 CDG's were formed in 3 of the VDC's. This led to a much higher workload for the staff and as result less time spent with each group. Groups that needed most support, those that were poorest and most remote, drop out leaving 12-13 in each VDC. The high numbers were due to the difficulty of negotiating a smaller number with the VDC.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> cycle VDC's**

The internal evaluation at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> pre-formation cycle recognized this problem, and as well setting the norm of "Max 12 per VDC" also changed the selection process so that expectations would not be raised in so many communities. Despite this, the staff report that 16 focus communities were selected in Khalte (the 2001/2002 semi -annual report shows that 14 focus communities were selected) The number of groups formed in Khalte was 13 and 12 of these are still existing. The revised norms were appropriate but they were not adhered to. The staff said that this was due to a large number of eligible supported by the recommendation of the multi-party meeting. The situation was discussed back in the office and they decided to go ahead with this number in order to reduce conflict.

**Recommendation:** Lessons learnt through experience should be taken due to note of. The effective support of scattered CDG's in marginalised communities is labor intensive and project like this should not on more communities than they have manpower to support.

### **The effectiveness of VDC-based teams**

Three VDC chairmen, whilst acknowledging that there be organisational and resource constraints were very positive about the VDC based teams. Communities and accessibility were identified as the main advantage in comparison to sub center of range post representation. It is also expressed that intensive staffs insolvent is worthwhile awareness raising and that a lot had achieved in a small time.

It is high staff input, with up to three in one VDC. The aim of DRMP is not to make a model for the government but assisting them by developing FUG's that are empowered and dependent on the DFO. The aim is sustainable FUG's not a sustainable model for the government.

The composition of field teams in different phase

The DRMP field staff identified the strengths and weakness of the CAT teams as:

DRMP Final Report 1998-02

Strength of CAT co-ordination within team

Weakness of CAT

Lack of full-time ranger

Poor direction from management on role of ranger in CAT (job describe and job evaluation on different of CAT)

CAT team and ranger responsible to different staff

Who should be the team leader? Ranger or Team leader?

The following staff combinations were suggested: 1,1 for first pre-formation, then 1T, 1,1 in formation and 1 T ,1 in post formation . This commination promotes the need for social and institutional support for a period after FUG formation.

Training and workshops for poor people without any allownce

"Kura khuwaye hunchha,paisa bhandu"

" Knowledge needs to be given not money"

Chandrawati Nepali,,Akala Devi CDG ,Jyamrung

### **Introduction**

In contrast to most development project activities in nepal, whether run by the given government, bi- lateral organized or NGO's DRMP only pays for any actual expenditure on food and lodging, and provides food where necessary.

### **The view of CDG members:**

All but of the 14 CDG groups and PEs with whom this was discussed identified the benefit that receive from attending meeting and training without commenting on the lack of allowance. At least 5 respondents clearly expressed that the benefit that they gained from training was what they learnt and that there was no need for allowance in order to attend. They did not feel that people refused to attend because of the lack of allowance. One person did respond that allowances were necessary because they rely on daily labor and they have insufficinenmt land of for food production.

### **The view of local NGO**

It was expressed that voluntary working for your community was good and that allowance would ruin that habit. If allowances were given then a programme without allowance would fail. it was also reported that 30% of motivators had contributed their work after the project had withdraw support (NRMP project area) They also stressed that there is a need encourage and help them through the provision of training etc.

### **The view of DRMP staff**

#### **Advantages:**

- Ø Committed to group,not self
- Ø committed to learn: food is available and they arrive on time
- Ø People only interested in allowances don't come
- Ø community has more trust in those that attended training
- Ø non-participants put value on what has been learnt
- Ø sustainability -habit of going to learn events without executions allowances
- Ø select participants who are motivated to learnt
- Ø reflects the effective of the approach

#### **Disadvantage:**

- Ø Approx.25-50% of group members cannot afford to miss the days work but they still come! They come due to group pressure and encouragement from the staff
- Ø The lack of immediate benefit may be the reason for 4 CDGs in Kiranchowk dissolving (there as come factors as well)



### **Evaluation**

"Kam ta banchunjel bhae rahancha, bhayetapani samai nikalnu parchha,kehi sikne manchha bhane"

"We will never be completed, if you to learn something you have to set time aside"

Kiri Maya Gurung, Jaubari CDG,Khari.

If one were looking for an indicator to show the CDG members assessment of the benefits of the project for them, then their repeated attendance at DRMP meetings and training events without any immediate financial gain, would make a very good one. Their repeated attendance and acknowledge that what they learn is the gain that they have from attending is a very strong endorsement of the value of the project to them.

### **Raising awareness overall of only on specific topics**

There are different views on this within the project. One is that the project should be holistic in its approach and enables the community members to realise all the problems in their village. In areas that DRMP cannot address, the community can be linked with other organization of DRMP should be made clear during the awareness raising.

The alternative view is that DRMP cannot raise awareness on everything, and they should select 4-5 issues, which can be supported.

### **The involvement of ranges on CAT teams**

#### **The discussion is also relevant to this topic.**

With the current focus on forestry from the beginning of the pre- formation phase the staff felt that forestry technical staff should be in the CAT from the beginning It was also suggested that as the team leader and motivator have the same background and skills, it would be better to have a ranger and a motivator the same background and skills, it would be better to have and a motivator. However as will be seen, even after input of the socially biased CAT teams in the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle, there are a still a large number of social and institutional weakness in the FUGs that have been formed.

If the focus on forestry issues is justified, then it is appropriate to have a forestry technician but there should also be a motivator and a Team leader, the team should have both men and women in it as well.

The peer Education (PE) approach

"Himilai bato dekhaudaichhun, pulko kam jareko chha"

"She /he (thePE) guides us acts like a bridge"

CDG member, Thapa gaun CDG, Jyanmrung.

The role of the PE is to promote awareness raising in the community and he/she attends monthly meeting and passes on what he/she has learnt to the whole group, She /he also collects the saving. The PEs is very positive about their own role and the benefit to themselves and to the community. They did also comment that the work took a lot of time group members also see the role of the PE as important.

The PEs is well respected within their community, and this approach has been effective. There are a few instances where group members were not aware about the role of the PE beyond the collection of the groups' savings.

The Field -Level Coordination committee (FLCC) approach

### **Overview**

The FLCC is a VDC bi- monthly meeting of all government and non-government offices Active in the VDC (forest, agriculture, school, healthpost, post office etc.) and is chaired by the VDC chairmen. They were established with the initiative of DRMP. DRMP is looking to support overall community development and the vision of the FLCC is to improve the links between the organization working in the VDC. The idea also fits well with the 'Local governance' act although it was felt that government does not support decentralized at the VDC level in practice. There was an initial high interest, possibly with the expectation of travel and daily allowances, and in some of the VDCs the involvement of the line agencies has gradually reduce. Most of the VDC chairmen and some of the staff of the line agencies (i.e. healthpost) are very enthusiastic about it. They see it as the first time that activities have been coordination like this and also expressed that it was sustainable because it was not sector specific.

DRMP staffs act the secretary in most of the FLCCs and although this helps to get working it also takes the ownership away from the VDC. In Bhudhathum the FLCC is run by the also which also carries out the secretarial work.

### **FLCC in practice**

For example in Jyamrung 7 meetings have been Held so far over a period of 16 months and there has been more than 50% attendance. The jyamrung VDC chairmen feels that the FLCC is learning and has been partially successful; in making decision on forest and other projects activities. He sees it as a good forum for discussion. Government offices that do not have a VDC pressure, for example forestry and agriculture with their sub- district, find it hard to attend regularly. The range post of service center covers a number of VDCs and there may be considerable travelling time required.

The FLCC has only recently been established in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle VDC's. The expectations are high concerning its effectiveness.

### **Discussion**

The establishment and the enthusiasm for the FLCC is a contribution that DRMP has to the overall VDC development. The further development of the FLCC and the challenge of sustaining them are disused in section.

### **The Resource Conservation Evaluation Education (RCE) classes.**

*"pahile authachap thiyo. Ahile padhera lamobatho dekhiyo.pahile hami chotro bato matra herthiyau"*

"Before we used to give our finger print. Now after the RCE class we have a long-term vision.

Before we only saw short term"

chola Devi Dahal, Milijuli CDG, Bhudhathum

### **Introduction**

The RCE classes are a forum, especially for women to discuss issues of interest concern to them. Audit literacy is apart of the class but is not only objectives. The facilitator comes from within the community activities e.g. sanitation etc.

Many responsibility in the field recognized that the RCE classes were effective for discussion, awareness raising, learning, literacy, development, unity and developing the ability to discuss and make decisions and to speak out in public.

### **Numbers of classes**

Out of the 73 CDGs established in the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle VDCs, 35 RCE classes have been run (28 in the second year and 7 in the third year). Out of the 70 CDGs in the second cycle -46 classes have run in their first year.

Approximately 75% of participants completed the classes. Those who dropped out were mainly people who lived some distance from the class and those with those young children.

Out of the 28 classes run in the second year of the project, all of them continued for a second year, with the facilitators taking the refresher training.

### **Lack of RCE facilitators**

An issue that was raised by CDG members and by the staff was that in a number of communities there was no facilitator available to conduct the class. This was either because there was no one willing to commit the considerable time necessary without pay or because there has never been an adequate provision of education.

There is no quantitative data in how many communities are constrained by this lack of a facilitator and whether this is the main reason why only 46% of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle and 66% of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle CDGs have run RCE classes. As these classes were identified as one of the key tools in the awareness raising programming it is important to get a clearer quantitative assessment of this constraint. It was heard frequently in the field and the only other reason given by CDG members for not running classes was earlier negative experience with other organization running literacy classes.

### **Links with district line agencies and the effectiveness of the District policy co-ordination committee (DPCC)**

DRMP links with other organizations in the district

The GTZ primary health care project in Dhading does not have any information about DRMP. This was said to be due to recent changes in staffs in GTZ staffs.

It was also reported that the women development office is conducting classes in Khalte and Jyamrung and that the WDO and her staff are not very familiar with the DRMP programme. DRMP agreed that there was little field coordination but that this was because they had discussed their objectives and target and had realized that these were different.

The Agriculture Development Officer, who has been present the beginning of DRMP, has participated in one workshop but knows little about DRMP. He reports that he has had no approach from CDGs for assistance.

Although the working relationship with the DDC chairmen and the DFO has been good, the relationships with other line agencies appear quite weak.

### **DPCC**

The DPCC is meant to meet twice each year and it is claimed that this has assisted the development of a good relationship between the DDC chairmen the DFO and the DRMP project Director. The minute book in the DRMP office contains a record of only two meetings (27.12.99 and April 2001). The latter meeting contains a note that "this DPCC meeting has not been held properly /timely. It was felt that it should be held timely, there are also claims that there is another minute book in the DFO's office and that although formal meetings may have informal interaction has continued.

Assess the quantity and quality of community groups. The number formed and their problem identification, their action plans their activities, their institutional capacity, their management of their own resources , their relationship with other organization and their utilization of resources from VDCs district resources provides.

### **Documentation and reporting**

When assessing the quantity of community groups formed it is necessary to clarify the terms "focus community " and 'community development group" When selecting communities to work with focus communities are selected using the process described in section 2. Once focus communities have been selected, DRMP beings to meet with the community and encourages them to form a CDG, Not all focus communities form CDGs. If the focus community does not form a CDG, then formation support will not be provided by DRMP, although DRMP will work with these communities during FUG formation. This confusion between focus community and CDG will work with these communities during FUG formation. This confusion between focus community and CDG along with in cosidences inreporting and the use of different formers for data presentation each year, made it difficult to know how many CDGs were initially formed and how many of these are currently active.

An example of the fincomsistence in reporting is shown in the table below. The number of CDGs written in hold all report on the number of CDGs formed during the first year of the project.

<b>source:</b>	<b>Data:</b>
1998/99 Annual Report	50 groups formed out of 77 communities
July 1999-January 2000 semi-annual report	20 groups formed (58 already formed)
1999/2000 annual Report	30 groups formed 41 already formed)

### **Quality of focus communities selected and CDGs formed**

Analysis of the figures in the annual report suggested that there were 71 CDGs formed in the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle and 69 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle. However, due to the difficulties presentation above, information on the number of focus communities selected, the number of CDGs formed and current of CDGs was obtained directly from the field staff, together with the names of each of the CDGs .the names of the CDGs were then passed on to the project office with the sugeretstion that it is officially recorded. The names of the communities would be very useful if a longer-term impact assessment is undertaken at later date.

<b>1<sup>st</sup> cycle VDC</b>				<b>2<sup>nd</sup> cycle VDC</b>			
	no of focus communi ties	no of CDGs current	no of CDGs formed		no of focus communi ties	no of CDGs current	no of CDGs formed
Baireni	13	15	15	Salang	13	13	13
Bhumistha	13	13	12	Agincho wk	11	11	11
Khari	17	17	13	Mulpani	11	11	11
Kirancho wk	17	17	11	Bhudhath um	11	11	11
chinpur	18	17	12	Kalleri	12	12	12
jyamrung	10	10	10	Khalte	16	13	12
total	88	89	73	Total	74	71	70

Source: Information from field staff on 10.6.2001

Notes: Baireni;2 largess focus communities formed 2 CDGs each

Reason for focus groups not becoming CDGs and for CDGs continuing

### **1<sup>st</sup> cycle**

Only one focus community failed to form CDG and this was said to be due negative attitude by the members towards by the project.

16 of the 89 CDGs formed failed to continue. The specific reasons given by the staff for some of the groups failing to continue are:

- Ø Very poor ,with no potential RCE facilitator, and a very low level of awareness
- Ø No financial assistance (allowance) were available
- Ø Limited DRMP staff and many groups
- Ø Remoteness
- Ø Conflict between members within the group
- Ø Intervention of people from outside the CDG and too whom CDG members were depended due to loans
- Ø The PE went to India
- Ø The group had different experience exceptions to DRMP

### **2<sup>nd</sup> cycle**

The VDC where groups did not continue was Khalte VDC focus three communities never formed a CDG and one CDG has not been able to continua. It is significant that Khalte is the one VDC where the revised covering the number of focus communities were not followed, and 16 communities selected. The specific reasons given by the number staffs for FCs not becoming CDG were.

- Ø Lack of manpower
- Ø number of households
- Ø DRMPs objectives of 10+/- groups

The reason for the one CDG not being able to continue was given as its poverty (so that number interests in attaining meeting, training, and workshops) and lack of DRMP staff related to the number of CDGs.

### **Discussion**

From this detailed analysis there are two main reasons for the groups failing. One is the large number of groups selected in relation to the manpower and the other members of the group are particularly poor and are depended on daily wages labor. The fact that in five of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle VDCs there was no drop out at all, suggested that the issues of poverty may be overcome in some of situation through intensive support and awareness raising by skilled staff.

### **Quality of CDGs formed in the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle**

#### **Meetings**

The CDGs have held regular meetings, approximately monthly. Some groups have not met some time (last meeting at Manakamana CDG, Khari in September 200). Initial meeting discussed internal CDG development, and then they began preparing action plans. I.e. ginger, plantation, toilets, in schools, RCE classes, FUG operational plans, drinking water system, establishing meeting halls. They claim that there are good numbers attending and that meetings are recognized as a good place for information sharing. Members are not clear on the terminology of action plan, but activities are discussed and planned in the meeting and recorded in the minutes.

a sample of a SWOL self analysis carried by a CDG is shown below. Other positive and negative characteristics of CDGs, which were identified, are listed after the SWOL.

<b><u>Strengths</u></b> Saving programme RCE class Increased children going to school Toile sanitation Tap maintains Drama: A wariness about CF, sanitation, anti-alcohol, gambling, women's empowerment and participants Women day celebration Forest protection committee Training for PEs and relay of message to group meeting	<b><u>Weakness</u></b> Poor meeting attendance because personal and household problems Only 24 households in saving and credit group out of 31 household in CDG Male PE gone to India and next PE is not yet selected.
<b><u>Opportunity</u></b> Promote permanent toilet sanitation Make drinking water reserve tank Income generation: goats of pigs Suggestions for protecting the forest	<b><u>Limitations</u></b> No possibility of fruit trees because of land shortage CF hand over not possible because of Guthi Toilet and sanitation problem because of congested house

### **Positive characteristics**

A VDC chairmen reports that some of the CDG members are able to discuss proposal with their organization and request support for their community. Also that some women from marginalised communities have become able to speak out confidently in public meetings and that people are more conscious about their resources and how to manage them and being conscious about their resources and how to manage them and being conscious this help them to speak out.

There is awareness about sanitation and development possibilities including CF. Activities such as saving and credit and income generation have started (goat, raising, fruit, and plantation). Activities implemented include: toilet construction, path improvement, *chautaro* construction, construction of drinking water system.

### **Negatives character**

In one group CDG members do not appear to about the number of members in their own group, nor did they know about the decision of the CDG committee in the last meeting of about the action plans. Despite awareness raising being prioritized as the most important input from the project, participants in the mass meeting was restored to few male potholders. One group acknowledge that sometimes an outside an is need to help resolve conflates. It was also acknowledge by a group that the agenda is mainly from the men, although discussion involves everyone.

### **Linkages:**

CDGs identified the organization that they had closed relation with at the VDC-level: DRMP, VDC, health post and high school and primary school in that order. At the district level with the district education office, the DDC, the District Drinking Water supplies office and the office for land reform. In remote areas, DRMP is often the first organization to have appropriated the community.

During the field visits few examples of CDGs obtaining support from organization other than DRMP were found.

They were:

Todke footpath improvement. Support from DRMP, Bhumisthan VDC and small Farmers Development office.

Majhaun CDG/FUG, khari in planning discussion with Rural Energy program for a solar powered drinking water system. 75% of the cost will be provided from the Rural Energy Program.

Information from the field staff revealed that the following organization have provided support to CDGs and FUGs:

- Ø VDC, drinking water (17),knitting training ,school building
- Ø Red cross, first aid training(2)
- Ø VLCC ,bamboo craft training
- Ø DDC,School building
- Ø DFO, NFE, fruit seeding
- Ø Agriculture service center ,training on vegetable gardening
- Ø Silk co operative ,technical support and larvae
- Ø Health post sub center ,health camp
- Ø Hindu world federation, school teacher

The majority of these linkages are with organization within the VDC. The DDC Chairmen confirmed that very few CDGs had approached the DDC with request for assistance.

**Recommendation:** DRMP should encourage and equip CDGs to develop links with instructions outside the VDC and therefore be able to access a wider range of resources.

**Quality of CDGs formed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle:**

The groups are holding regularly monthly meeting and although attendance fluctuations the trend of increasing. Topics at these initial meetings (about 6 or far) are different groups and include: groups rules: PE selection, running a RCE class, RCE facilitator selection, toilet construction action plan and review of work, drinking ware and irrigation systems action plans, forest conservation and FUG formation, DRMP development process, saving and credit. Decisions are made through participatory discussion. It is acknowledge that leading is generally by men because ate understood to have the capacity. Conflict does arise sometimes but there they claim are resolved easily through internal discussion.

Although these have only recently been formed, three CDGs received support from kalleri VDC for drinking water systems.

**Sustainability of CDGs:**

*"DRMPle chetena diyo,samuha aghadi janchhau jasma sabhai meeting baschhaun"*

*"DRMP gave us awareness. We will continue to meeting and take group forwards"*

Khil Jumari Thap, Thap Gaun,Jyamrung

Local NGOs and CDGs themselves see CDGs ongoing local level development institutions, which have the potential to continue to be a development focus for their community. DoF staff many of the DRMP staff, see that their purpose is to assist in forming well represented FUGs, and that once this has occurred, the CDGs can dissolve. These two views are a particle interpretation of the two missions and vision statement presented on section. So it should not be a surprise that there are these different views. DRMP needs a consensus on what its vision is on the longer-term objectives. (if any) of the CDGs before the sustainability of CDGs can become an issue.

**Recommendation:** DRMP clarifies and reaches an agreement on the development objectives(if any) of the CDGs after FUGs have at the formed.

Some VDC chairmen believe that CDGs already reached a stage where thy are sustainable. Others, and NGOs think that it is unlikely that will survive actively supported According to DRMP strategies, support will be much reduce during the FUG formation phase and will then ceases

altogether. The manpower available for CDG support is markedly reduces at the end of the program phase.

**Asses the effect of these groups on the quality of their members: Changes in their unity self participants and economic status.**

There are many causes of change in rural areas, including the local and national political and development environment. It is not possibility to claim that changes in quality of life within the DRMP working area are due solely to DRMP. DRMP has aimed to work to work with marginilised communities, marginilised both socially and geography, and this, it can be argued, makes DRMP's influence in its working relatively stronger.

The project document says that "changes in quality of life be measured by indicators in community action plans:. When visiting CDGs and FUGs it was hard to identify and review action plans made by the groups. The group; s action plans took the of agenda points within the group's minute book. Indictors of success were not apparent in these minute books.

Based on the meeting decision action plans were prepared, and without keeping copies in the CDG, discussed in the monthly PE meeting and sent to the FLCC and if approved to DRMP action. Action plans revived in the DRMP office did show simple indicators to evaluate the effectiveness of the activity changes to their quality of knife.

**Recommendation:**

- Ø Copies of action plans should be retained by the CDG/FUG of copies plans that receive DRMP approval should be retain to the group.
- Ø The requirement to include 'change in quality of life indicators in action plans should be received for practically. If still required additional support needs to be provided for their preparation.

It is less than three years since DRMP started it is still very early to expect to see many effects of the pre-formation work in the quality of life CDG members. Changes can only be expected in this the six VDCs of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle. Claims concerning the following changes were made.

**Social:**

- People (referring to women) who used to be restricted to household work now taking a row in the community.
- Increased cleanliness in the village, livestock under control, improved internal relationship (calling the police to resolve disputes have stooped.
- VDC chairmen no longer have to deal with court cases. This is due to DRMP because most of the problem came from the DAG. (There are still divorce and land cases but these go to the district level.
- Significant increase in children going to school with some CDGs claiming that all the children from their community go to school. The only independent verification of this was one teacher who agreed that this was occurring.
- Form many CDGs there are claims that awareness on health and sanitation has increased that there is an increase in the use of temporary and permanent family planning measureless of the health post, construction of temporary toilets, reduction (but still used)in use of the local healer.

Maili Tamang,Thada Khola CDG, Bhumistahan .When Maili was selected as PE she was not able to speak Nepali easily.She is now taking part in discussion on development and has a role in decision making.

*"Latali ain,bathalai chaina"*

"Rules for the innocent, benefits for the clever"

Bishwarkarma, Pokharitok CDG, Kalleri during a mixed meeting of CDG and FUG, with mixed caster present.



## **Economics**

- Main effect is through CF awareness and FUG formation and that they access to resources through that, Reduction in time taken to collect forest production.
- Now have a longer vision, instead of short vision, and that they are putting this long vision into practice, i.e., saving and credit and sanitation.
- Saving program has strengthened them, and that they are active in running programming e.g. saving and credit, drinking water etc.
- Minor changes in kitchen gardening income groups only and there are still constructions such as open grazing and scarcity of water. Some fruit trees have been planted. Those who have received training (PE and RCE facilitators) are selling some vegetables in the bazaar.
- Due to grazing control it is possible to grow winter crops. Home production of crops increased and year round kitchen garden production minimizing imports.

Assess the effect that pre-formation activities have quality of FUGs in these areas, in particular they're decision- making and benefits sharing arrangements, and the leadership role of women marginalised and poor members:

FUG formation in the six VDC of the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle commenced in 1999/2000 towards the end of the "perforation phase. Quantitative information has primarily been collected from these VDCs quantitative information incorporates from FUGs by DRMP in other VDCs.

From observe and interviews the following characteristics of FUGs within the six VDCs were identified.

## **Positive:**

- Where FUG and CDG are the same, the FUG members were about FUGs decisions.
- Good attendance at FUG assembly and committee. (mixed CDG/non-CDG group)
- In CDG people have an understanding of CF, of discussion and of participation. More women and lower caste in the community. In non -CDG, FUG there is a stronger attitude of "*gatnu parcha*" you have to do.
- Vocal participants of Karmic from a CDG during formation of leasehold forest group.
- Women DAG on FUGs and speaking in the meeting and taking part in discussion. (mixed CDG/non-CDG group)
- Examples of women in significant positions in mixed FUGc i.e. Vice chairmen, Treasure
- Ditto in non-focus FUGc- women vice chair.
- Some CDG members have taken significant positions in FUGs, From their awareness and decision making style, the effect of the CDG can be seen.
- FUG from CDG and non-CDG has 90% attendance with equal men and women.
- At time of forest hand over, CDG members have awareness but other users do not.
- After anticipating in RCE class, Someone who used to be illiterate FUG chairmen.

## **Negative:**

- 2 DAG CDG members appointed onto FUGC without consultant. Suggest that they are symbolic representatives only.
- No FUG bank account. (FUG and CDG are the same.)
- All women expect one unaware about rules and regular in FUG consultant and operational plan about genera;; CF rules (mixed CDG/non -CDG group)
- Female FUDC members, who are also CDG members, don't speak in meetings (mixed CDG/non-CDG group).
- No FUGC meeting from December to May due to conflict between users (mixed CDG/Non CDG groups)
- Despite awareness raising being prioritized as the most important input from the project, participants in the mass meeting (CDG/FUG meeting) was restricted a few male potholders.

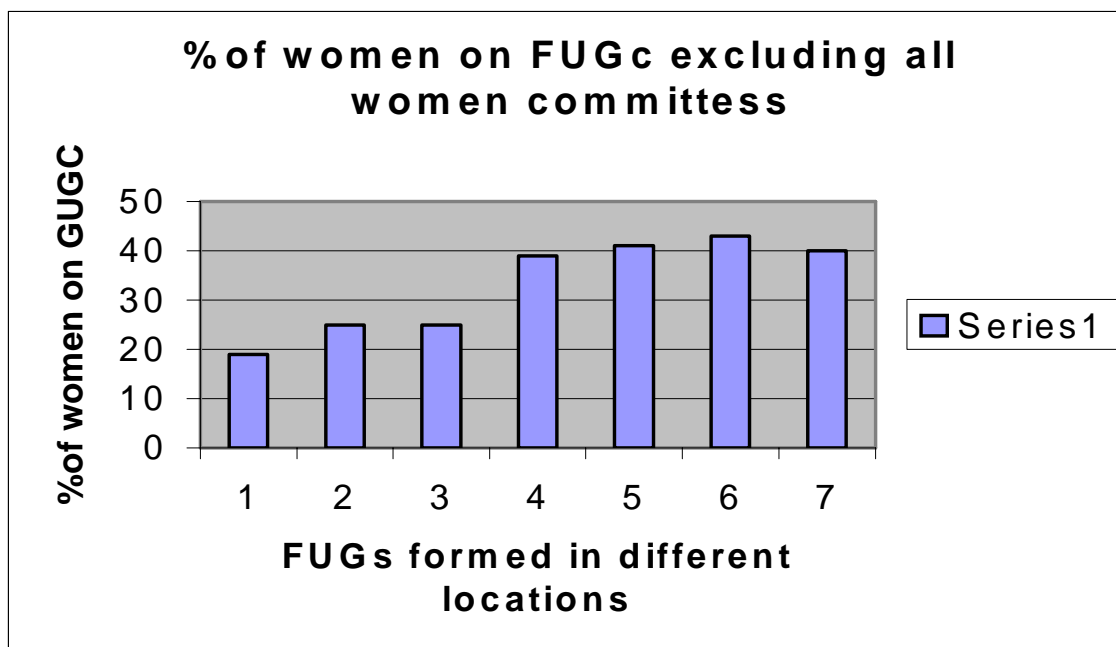
## **Discussion**

Members of FUGs who were also members of CDGs did generally have a good understanding of their responsibilities, rights and their role in CF. From the above information it is clear that although there have been some changes in the quality of FUGs formed, there are also many shortcomings in the awareness, representation and leadership role of women, marginalised and poor members of FUGs.

Information on the representation of women on FUGs has drawn from the analysis of project reports, comparative information from 4 districts in the Koshi Hills (Thap and Gibbon) and 3 districts from the Dhaulagiri Hills (Upadhyay et al, 1999) have been to give indication of the comparative national figures.

	Period	number of FUGs	% of women on FUGC	% of women on FUGC excluding a;; women committees.
All FUGs in Koshi Hills	unit 1998	1021	19	n/a
All FUGs in Dhaulagiri Hills	unit 1998	563	25	n/a
FUGs formed by NRMP	1992-1998	50	28	25
DRMP, FUGs formed in DFO support VDCs	1998-2000	6	45	39
DRMP 1 <sup>st</sup> cycle VDCs total	July 000-January 2001	40	51	41
DRMP 1 <sup>st</sup> cycle VDCs FUGs without CDGs	July 000-January 2001	13	43	43
DRMP 1 <sup>st</sup> cycle VDCs FUGs with CDGs	July 000-January 2001	27	56	40

It is also useful analyses, which community's women representatives are drawn from when a FUG is;



### **Notes:**

1. All FUGs Koshi Hills
2. All FUGs in Dhaulagiri Hills
3. FUGs formed by NRMP
4. DRMP, FUGs formed in DFO
5. DRMP, 1<sup>st</sup> cycle VDCs total
6. DRMP 1<sup>st</sup> cycle VDCs FUGs without CDGs
7. DRMP 1<sup>st</sup> cycle VDCs FUGs with CDGs

	No of FUGs		Disadvantage group	Magar	Tamang	Chetri Brahman
NUKCFP Dhaulagiri	409	in group	19%:10%	30%:32%	-	42%:48%
		in committee			-	
DRMP DFO Support VDCs	6	in group	22%:8%	29%:22%	-	20%:40%
		in committee				
DRMP FUGs Without CDGs	7	in group	5%:7%	9%:8%	3%:10%	48%:54%
		in committee				
DRMP FUGs With CDGs	6	in group	12%:9%	20%:22%	32%:32%	24%:22%
		in committee				

Sources: DRMP database (unpublished); Upadhyay 1997

#### Analysis:

- ✓ The two tribal groups, magar and Tamang are fairly are equally represented the group in the committee. This is probably due to them often living in fairly homogeneous communities, and therefore forms homogeneous committees.
- ✓ the disadvantage or dalit group are strongly under in the NUKCFP and in the DRMP DFO support VDCs (where there is no pre formation phase) and fairly equally represented in the DRMP pre formation area, whether CDGs are involved or not.
- ✓ The Chetri/Brahmins are generally over represented in the committee expect in the DRMP pre-formation area where the FUGs have been an almost equal representation of different on the committee as in the group.
- ✓ Within the pre-formation area there is no significant different between those FUGs formed focus communities and those without.

#### Discussion

- ✓ This data suggested that there has been a significant in the representation on FUG committees in the pre formation working area. however the effect is just as strong in those have been formed without any CDGs being involved , as those that have been formed from CDGs
- ✓ Either some other influence has been at work across the whole VDC (for example the staff carrying out the FUG formation work in both these groups are the same ) , or that there has been a strong in the DFO support VDCs and the pre -formation area.

#### Assess the cost of pre-formation

The benefits of the outputs of the pre-formation work have been presented above. It is important to assess the cost, both for the community and for the donor ,of achieving these results. The pre formation cycle for the first six VDCs was completed at the first two years of the project will be used for this estimate.

As the project has been carrying out FUG formation and post -formation support in addition to the pre-formation activities. not all of the project costs can be attribute to pre -formation work. Broad assumptions have been made on the % of each expenditure line that is related to pre-formation work and this % is shown in the table below.

73 CDGs were formed and supported in the first in the first year VDCs during the first two year of the project. The cost of this work in Nepali RS is:

Account heading	%for pre-formation	1998/99	1999/2000	Total
Community Contribution	100%	2397430	4849420	7246850
Institutional; Support	30%	15924	37132	53056
All other project cost	70%	3813174	6304413	10117587
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>622528</b>	<b>11190965</b>	<b>17417493</b>

Notes: for explanation of community contribution see: DRMP community contribution Guidelines; There was confusion over the interpretation of community contribution at first and the record figure for the first year is probably too low.

With 73 CDGs continuing to the end of the two years pre -formation phase the cost of forming and supporting each CDG through the pre formation phase is approximately 239000 rupees. Approximately 100000 is been by the community itself, and the balance by the project. There are approximately 2320 households in these 73 CDGs had the cost per household is approximately RS 7500 of which 3100 is borne community and the balance of 4400 by the project.

## **DRMP Formation Phase Evaluation June 2002 - Main Findings:**

The five-year target of DRMP was to form 200 CFUGs. However, since the project period has been reduced to four years, the target was also reduced to forming 140 CFUGs in the 12 DRMP VDCs, and in the 6 DFO support VDCs. The project has so far assisted in forming 97 CFUGs. They have their own constitution registered in the District Forest Office. More over, about 4,500 hectares of national forest has been handed over to them as community forests. 11,300 households are the members of these CFUGs. Inventories and operational plans of these forests have also been prepared using the recent DoF guidelines 43 CFUGs are presently in various stages of formation, and their operational plans are also in the process of finalization. Although not mentioned in the project document, the project assisted in the revision of six forest operational plans of NRMP VDCs.

The break down of 140 CFUG formation and forest hand over is as follows:

- DRMP intensive support area (12 VDCs) 79
- OP preparation in process (all in DRMP support area) 43
- DFO support area 10
- Post-formation support area 8

The average of a community forest handed over to a CFUG is about 32 hectares

### **Have the CFUGs followed their operation plan and constitution?**

The operational plans of community forests handed over to CFUGs have been prepared in close consultation with the users. Most of these forests are protected against theft, fire and grazing. In many cases, CFUG members monitor the forest on rotation. Users are eager to protect their community forest at the cost of adjoin national (not yet handed over) forests. Forest protection activities and graduated sanctions for rule breakers have induced natural regeneration of these forests. One can see these regenerating forests on both sides of the highway as one crosses Thankot on the way to Mugling.

Users are extracting forest products mainly for household purposes. These forest products are fuel wood, ground fodder, leaf litter as bedding material and timber for construction. Except for timber, no fee is levied by the users for the collection of these forest products. However, some CFUGs charge minimum fee for the collection of fuel wood and fodder.

Although, these operational plans have prescribed various silvi cultural prescriptions such as thinning, pruning and some plantations, many have not yet been practiced. 20 percent of CFUGs have been trained in forest management. Reasons for not following the prescriptions as mentioned by the users are:

Many users do not know or understand the content of the operational plans;  
Since the forest provides them enough forest products, why bother about intensive management;  
They do not know whether the forest products could be sold in the market;  
They have not seen any forests intensively managed nearby;  
They do not know the technique of intensive forest management

Since the forest is used mainly for household use, users have little interest in being members of their executive committee. In the NRMP areas, community forests are facing problems of encroachment.

Again in the NRMP area it was observed that CFUG funds are often being controlled by and used by the committee members.

The main sources of CFUG fund are:

- Timber / fuel wood sale;
- Membership fee;
- Fine/penalty; and
- Royalty from stone quarrying

The main items of expenditure are:

- Office operation;
- Notice board;
- Loan to committee members at 24 to 36 percent of interest.

**Recommendation: Post formation support is essential to enhance forest management. These forest have high productive potential and should be tapped for meeting basic forest product needs, generating income and creating employment opportunities.**

### **Community development activities implemented by CFUGs**

The project has the twin objectives of helping to carry out development activities and community forest management activities by the local people. Various community development activities such as drinking water projects, toilet construction, trail construction and other income generating activities such as goat raising and bee keeping have been carried by CDGs and CFUGs. Some of the highlights of these activities and the number of beneficiary households (hhs) are given below:

#### **Community development activities**

Program activities	Beneficiary hhs
Drinking water (82 projects)	2,891
Toilet construction	2,363
Goat rearing	129
Bee keeping	19
Kitchen garden	1,052
Fruit tree planting	2,104
Trail construction/maintenance	113 groups
Community building construction	

The project supports the implementation of these community projects by providing skilled manpower and outside materials. The local people provide labor and local materials. Over all, community contribution to these development activities ranges from 30 to 40 percent of the total cost of the project.

Initiation and implementation of these community development activities such as drinking water and toilet construction activities have improved the sanitation of the local people. Training and implementation have increased their confidence level and has also empowered the marginalised group members and women to be more assertive.

The project has also imparted various types of training to local people so that they could carry out these activities even after the termination of the project. One such training is the Basic Care and Maintenance Training. This training provides local people the skilled needed to repair and maintain community drinking water projects at the local level. So far more than 5,000 local people (about 75 percent are women) have obtained various types of training. The types of training and the number of participants is given below:

**Type and number of training**

Type	Number	Male	Female	Total
1. Skill based training (14 types)	33	272	226	498
2. Forest related training (7 types)	29	361	244	605
3. Resource conservation classes (10 months each)	81	323	1569	1892
4. Other training (7 types)	84	311	1786	2097
Total	227	1267	3850	5092

In addition to these trainings, 177 awareness related trainings were carried out in these areas. Of these trainings, street drama appeared was seen to be a very effective program.

Active membership and participation of disadvantaged group and women in CFUGs

*"Pahile jasko shakti usko bhakti thiyo, ban pani prasastai thiyo tara masiyo, tara ahile bewasthit chha, niyam beneko chha, ramro chha."*

"Earlier those who had power had rights, there use to be lots of forest but it was destroyed. But now it is organised, it has improved, it is good."

Thuli Tamang, Jharlang Khola CFUG, Bhumisthan.

Participation of women and disadvantaged groups (DAGs) in CFUGs is substantially high in the project area.

- Although CDG members comprise about 38 percent of total CFUG members in the project area, 47 percent of the CFUG committee members are from these CDG members.
- 43 percent of the FUG committee members are women in the project area.
- The national average is about 21 percent;
- The LFP (Livelihood and Forestry Project) west (Baglung, Myagdi and Parbat) average is 25 percent; and
- The LFP East (Bhojpur, Dhankuta, Shakhawasabha, Tehrathum) ranges from 19 to 23 percent

Although DAGs and women are members in the CFUG committees in the DFO support and NRMP areas, they are not regular and active in the meetings. Generally those from CDGs in the NRMP focus area are much more active. Field level observations indicate that record keeping and a minute is relatively good in CFUGs formed from CDGs.

Record show that 83 percent of Resource Conservation Education class (RCE) attendants are women. Similarly, about 75 percent of the participants of the training are women. One of the problems related to women's membership in CFUG committee is that they move to their husband's family after they get married.

Awareness on the constitution and operational plan is still confined to some committee members. This indicates that further awareness is needed in the areas of rights and responsibilities of CFUG member relating to community forests, and the way forests can be more intensively managed..

Some of the staff of the DRMP have formed an NGO called Resource Identification and Management Society (RIMS) which promotes NTFP management in the project area. It has already started its activities on a small scale. It has an objective of covering the entire DRMP area, but this will depend on the financial resources that it can mobilize. There is a good opportunity for the promotion (cultivation, management, utilisation and marketing) of NTFPs in the project area.

**Assess the effectiveness and shortcoming of the DRMP approach in terms of fulfilling objectives, cost, sustainability and impact on quality of life and appropriateness for replication.**

**Sustainability**

A number of indicators of sustainability in the context of FUGs are first reviewed, followed by a conclusion.

**Equitable distribution of forest resources and forest products**

In the three CFUGs surveyed in the post formation support area the only forest products available at this time are; dry wood and inferior firewood arising from weeding and cleaning operations which are either taken by those doing the work or offered to those in need, grass and litter. Timber is only made available on specific need basis.

In the pre-formation support area, the product from thinning were either distributed equally among all household or were available after paying a small charge (Rs. 2-5).

**Equitable utilization of CFUG fund**

The DFO reported that throughout the district the CFUG funds are not used appropriately and that mainly the CFUGC use the money. In the three CFUGs visited in the post formation area, the funds are small and the only people accessing loans from the fund were CFUGC members.

In those CFUGs formed from CDGs, the record keeping and fund management was good. There was less demand for loans in these groups as they had alternatives through their saving and credit programs.

**Technical and Managerial skill of CFUG members**

Forest user groups in all the DRMP working areas had a good but generalized understanding of forest management the supply of fuel, timber and other forest products the future. They did not have an understanding of managing the forest in different ways in order to produce different products in accordance to their need.

Most of the CFUGs expressed confidence that they could conduct forest operations independently although in some other point in the interview many of them also requested further training in forest management. Their knowledge of forest operations was mainly to do with cleaning, pruning and thinning. The state of emergency has had a serious negative effect on the provision of forest management training and the ability of the CFUGs to put into practices as people have been told not to go into many areas of the forest. The Bhudhathum VDC chairmen was also confident that since the CFUGs were recognized as legal institutions, and they had received training and other support, that they would now be able to continue.

DRMP has given less time to post formation support in forest management training as complies with the inventory guidelines has taken up all the time of the forestry technical staff. In addition, as the project has only run for four years, a high proportion of the CFUGs has only recently been formed. The fifth year of the project would have provided them with support.

Observe of the secretarial skills practiced in the post formation support area showed that they were not able to maintain simple minutes. This observation was confirmed by a ward chairman.

**CFUGs future plans and need for support**

There was a broad consensus that few If any of the CFUGs were at the stage of interdependence, and the number that were independent was questionable. Specific areas where they will require support in auditing and in OP revision. There are some local NGOs insolvent I social work, but they would not be able to carry out the technical aspects of OP revision without assistance.



From DRMPs perspective, there is need for follow up and there are a number of village level coordination committee (VLCC) and Filed Level Coordination Committee (FLCC) approved action plans to implement.

Local NGOs pointed out the further awareness raising may be needed in the technical aspects of CFUGs formation and post formation . Some CFUGs particularly those within the DRMP focus area but not formed from CDGs ,expressed their need for overall awareness raising.

The CFUGs in the post formation support area expressed problems such as controlling landslides and theft from the forest and obtaining fruit seedlings, but these should presentation a considerable number of areas were identified where they would like to receive assistance. These are:

**Income generation:**

- Medical plants`
- Bamboo, Armriso, Shree khanda, Satisal Rudrachshia
- Bee keeping ,skills based training (sewing)
- Chiuri, Asparagus
- Observation tower construction and ecotourism
- Grass and folder

**Record Keeping:**

- Meeting Book
- Ledger books for accounting
- Visitor books
- Profile of people involvement in forest protection ,fire control, plantation

**Institutional development:**

- Office building
- Furniture, stamp, letterheads etc.
- Technical forestry books and papers
- Bank account.

**Forest management:**

- Forest cleaning and thinning
- Biodiversity
- Permission to use old trees
- Permission to plant income generating plants and other seeding in the forest.
- Training, tour demonstration, plot and technical help.

**Environmental Sustainability:**

The immediate outcome of forest handover has the protection of the forest and stopping the theft of wood and timber. This is due to the feeling of ownership by the users. Many of the foresters are only used for grass and grazing. This orientation to protection is claimed to be outcome of the awareness raising activities of DRMP. However through out the country the usual response to forest handover is strict drinking water sources have improved and that the incidence of fire either been stooped completed or greatly reduce. More than one CFUG complained about the increase in the number of monkeys and the damage they cause. It is clear that there has been an improvement in the environment.

Although forestry are a renewable resources, the DDC chairmen said that community forestry produce income by activities other than harvesting timber.

Suitability and the level of awareness:

The majority of respondents felt that there was a very strong link between the level of awareness raising carried out and the sustainability of the project outputs, including the local institutions that have been developed. For many, this understanding had developed due to their associations with DRMP and their observation of the DRMP methodology and its impact. The DDC chairmen and the MPs are reported to be saying that other projects should follow DRMP's style by raising awareness first.

The DRMP Director and the CJYC Chairmen both believe that awareness is essential in order to achieve sustainable project outputs. CJYC also felt that where there is no formation phase are less enthusiastic about being in a CFUG. The Bhumisthan VDC Chairmen felt as the users have got the message about ownership very clearly, and he thinks that the work can continue because of this.

An example of "creativity development" that has arisen due to a greater level of awareness is as follows: A kind of participatory loan in kind. At a wedding there is a collection made of 5 pathi rice, 5 pathi kodo and 2 mana oil.

A CFUG in the DFO support area said that there was a need for an awareness program especially for some marginalised members of their group. Due to the lack of awareness and poverty of the praja families, community wide development initiatives were not successful.

There are also concerns that the awareness raising that DRMP undertaken is costly takes a long time. The DFO questions whether the one year pre formation phase for awareness raising in the DRMP model is a necessary step.

This issue about the relationship between awareness raising and CFUG formation is discussed further in section.

### **Conclusion**

There are a few CFUGs amongst those which have been formed from CDGs which have the capacity and coordination with other organization to maintain in their activities without external support. Even those will require technical assistance in order to revise their OP when it expires. These CFUGs would also benefit from further skill and capacity development if available.

The majority of the CFUGs range from being very deepened (many have only recently been formed) through to the stage mentioned above. Those with a greater community understanding of social and environment issues, and with a broader involvement in a management (including women and marginalised people) are in a stronger position. There is a clear link between the capability of the groups and the pre formation work carried out by DRMP.

The majority of the CFUGs range from being very depended (many have only recently been formed) through to the stage mentioned above. Those with a greater community understanding of social and environmental issues and with a broader involvement in a management (including women and marginalised people) are work carried out by the DRMP

Further support would be beneficial for all of the CFUGs and essential for many of them they will be able to provide any substantiality benefits to their members. Many potential benefits will lost of appropriate support is not provided soon.

**Recommendation:** UMN, the DoF and USAID need to prepare fund an appropriate support programme for the CFUGs is not provided soon.

### **Conflict Resolution:**

In the CFUGs visited in the post formation support area there were no conflicts within the CFUGs. The army have approach one CFUGs in order to use the forest but users are in their resistance to this.

In the DFO support area there were reports of wood being smuggled from forest areas adjacent to CFUGs under the guise of private wood and of non members cattle grazing in the forest. In CFUGs in this area there were also conflicts with praja CFUG members contained to exploit the Forrest.

CFUGs in the DRMP focus area reported that there was either no initial conflicts, or that they had been drastically reduce and had virtually all been resolved internally. Forest rules were now systematic and 5th committee makes decision no cutting trees. However it was reported people are using non- handed over forest.

### **Cost**

An attempt has been made to estimate the cost by DRMP and the contribution by the community for CFUG formation. It needs to be emphasized that this is an approximation. The DRMP accounts are not arranged according to outputs, but as line items such as salaries and travel. The calculation has been made by applying sensible percentage of each of these line items to arrive at a total for CFUG formation. A similar method has been used to estimate the community contribution. The community contribution is based on an opportunity cost of RS 120/say for the time involved.

	2001/2002 budget	%to CFUG formation	No of CFUGs formed	Cost per CFUG
DRMP expenses	15023112	60% salary +others	60	106433
Community contribution	8000000	40%	60	53333
Total	23023112		60	159766

The total cost of CFUG formation is approximately 1.5 lakh rupee with 1 lakh being contributed by DRMP and 05 lakh by the community.

### **Replication**

#### **Diffusion to other project**

Many people visit the DRMP area to see the work an approach is being used. It has been possible to find any specific instances of DRMP methodology being up in any other projects. A number of DRMP staff has been successful in obtaining good positions in where there is a high competition for vacancies. The livelihood and forestry project (LFP) is considering facilitating CFUGs to prepare actin plans and to look for outside support to fund them, and LFP is likely to provide a fund to support this. This is a similar scheme to DRMP s community development support.

The DRMP approach is actively prompted by the DDC chairmen when he talks exiting of prospectus projects.

There has been little public project documentation of the project approach. A recommendation was made in the pre formation evaluation that a report be prepared and published nationally and internationally about the pre formation work of the project. A partner and published in the community forestry bulletin on increased income from community forest. Experience in Dhading by ex-DFO and a member of the DRMP staff. There is also a paper in preparation in the over all DRMP process pre formation, CFUG formation to post formation support.

### **Diffusion to other villages**

There were reports from CDGs from VDC chairmen that their activities (toilet, path, improvement and cleaning, attars making, petromax ,literacy class, kitchen garden) have been copied and implementing by other village where there is no direct involvement of DRMP .

### **Action Research**

DRMP, through its pre-formation process has been testing an approach to empower marginalised communities and enable them to participate effectively in other community activities, in particular community forestry. They have also carried out internal reflection and learning activities and modified their approach in response to lessons learnt. For example at the ends of the second year of the project a staff reflection workshop was held to review the pre-formation process and changes were made as a result. Also the annual reports usually have sections on issues that have identified, lesson learnt and recommendations. The whole project could be described as action research.

In addition DRMP has carried out two specific areas of action research. These are:

- Income Generating through conservation and cultivation of medical plants in Dhading a one year trial programming which led to the development of a separate project with support from a different donor.
- DRMP action research with CFUGs communication, decision making and the role of literacy in developing organizational capacity of CFUGs, a study out in 1999.

### **Effectiveness**

The DDC chairmen said that DRMP is the most successful project in Dhading District. He also said that it is well accepted and respected in community and illustrates this by saying that DRMP is still working reasons for DRMPs effectiveness were recorded from a variety of sources.

- Good criteria/set -up in project proposal and good review of sources
- close relationship with local government
- living in the village
- focus on poor/ marginalised
- continually talking with villagers including lower caste
- Continually talking with the people getting people to change their habits.
- Transparent behavior by staff.

In one area DRMP was being described as "Din Raat Mahila Purus" ("day and night, men and women")

Due to the regular activities and presence of both male and female staff in the field.

VDC Chairmen accredited not only environmental development in their VDCs to DRMP, but also other aspects .Due to DRMPs awareness and work with marginalised communities, including women protection, plantation, and responsibility ,ownership for the forest has been established .The main benefits that have been and CFUG formation and hand over to the users.

An FLCC member from khalte said that concept of community forestry has been among the people in a short period 2 years and that DRMP had been effective to raise awareness to such a level. The VDC chairmen reported that the joint work between DRMP and the VDC has successfully implemented various community development activities. The activities that would have been conducted through the VDC budget over a 5 years period had been completed by the DRMP in only two years (one year awareness raising and implementing in the next year) DRMP has been successful in raising awareness of self help among the communities and 27% of the VDC are getting drinkable water due to DRMPs work and this project had been regard as impossible by the VDC.

Criticism of the approach were that it takes, that DRMP was not able to work on CFUGs formation in response to the users demand and that it was difficult to form a CFUG there were both CDG and

non CDG as the CDG members were already aware and good relationship had been established with the staff.

### **The special focus on marginalised communities:**

The majority of on formation said that the focus on specific marginalised communities was an important contribution to DRMPs effectiveness. There were some political voices that wanted the same level of awareness to be given to all comments from a VDC chairmen and CFUG members in the DFO support area, where no CDGs had been formed that the praja community needed a specific program to enable appropriateness of the DRMP strategy. At the time of CFUGs formation, a more general awareness campaign about CF is necessary and this is currently practiced by DRM

Learning: DRMPs focused approach, working initially with marginalised communities, is effective for overall community development.

### **Effectiveness of rangers in CAT teams:**

The experience from two CAT teams (khari and chainpur) where rangers had involved from the beginning has shown that is very effectiveness for CFUGs formation. The rangers were involved in the overall awareness arising activities or the first year and there was no specific CFUG formation work. In the following years 22 CFUGs have been formed in khari and 15 in chainpur. The rate of formation more than made up for the initial year when it appeared that skills were not being sufficiently utilized.

**Lesson:** Community awareness teams with 1 rangers, 1 VDC -local persons and one other and a mix of male and female are effective.

### **Conclusion:**

The section on the sustainability of CFUGs conducted that those with a greater community understanding of social and environmental issues, and with a broader involvement in management (including women and marginalised people) are stronger and that is a clear link between the sustainability of the groups and the pre formation work carried out DRMP.

The real test of the effectiveness of the DRMP approach will be seen in 2 to 3 years when the long term strength and capability of the CFUGs of the CFUGs formed will be more apparent. An organization assessment of the CFUGs formed by the NRMP was carried out 1-3 years after formation which identified a large number of institutional weakness. A similar comparative study could be carried out some of the DRMP formed groups in order to assess the effectiveness of the DRMP approach.

Recommendation: An organizational assessment of DRMP formed CFUGs be carried out in 2 years and the results compared with the study on NRMP formed groups,

### **The impact on quality of life**

#### **Change No of children to school**

The DDC chairmen, VDC chairmen and members of CDGs and CFYGs from the DRMP focus area all reported an increases in the number of girls going to school although many leave school earlier than boys either due to marriage or for household work. This increase is a national trend and there are many influences promoting this. The significant in the DRMP areas are that is happening within communities that have had poor levels of education.

There was only one community where reported that the children do not go to school and that was among the prja in the CFUG support area. this is the same community that local people have suggested that a specific awareness raising and support activities be carried out.

There are also still many constraints for these communities to overcome they receive a reasonable level of education. For example in Bhumisthan is a grade 4 primary school which was established 23 years ago. It has 2 permanent teachers for 200-250 students, and the CFUG is paying for 1 additional temporary teacher.

#### **Change in constructing and using temporary and permanent toilets:**

The DDC chairmen reported that in that DRMP area people are concerned about hygiene, house are clean and the use of toilets has increased. This improvement in overall awareness and in the condition of the environment due to the project was conferred by the one of the VDC chairmen. CFUGs in the same VDC (khalte) reported that between 25% and 50% of CFUG members had toilets.

Similarly in Bhumisthan ,the VDC chairmen and CFUGs said that toilets adopted and that there had an overall improvement in the cleanness of house ,utensils, paths and the villages ,similarly in Jyamrung some CFUGs reported that members had toilets.

In contrast, the members or two of the three CFUGs visited in the NRMP supported area has not toilet and the prja in the CFUG support area were also had toilets.

No of households with improved stoves:

The highest members of improved stoves were reported from the NRMP support where members of two CFUGs reported area and none in the CFUGs visited in the DFO support area.

#### **Increase in household's income**

The DDC chairmen reported that the living standard of most people in the DRMP areas is very high. However one of the main sources of income is the unsustainable exploitation of sand, gravel and stone. Vegetable production is also important. Both of these livelihood are restricted to those near the valley bottom and the roads.

Members of CDGs are benefiting form the availability of credit from their saving scheme, There were reports of people benefiting from activities such as knitting, goat keeping, medicinal plants, bee keeping and vegetable growing. However it was not possible to verify changes households income.

Group cohesiveness; change in disputes alcoholism, gambling

Reduction in gambling and alcoholism were widely reported, but this due to a large degree to forceful political pressure to stop these activities .The RCE classes, the improvement in the social interactions and leadership development by DRMP in the poorest communities has also certainly contributed.

Where CDG have been formed and to a lesser extent, CFUGs there has been a marked reduction in social conflict, Many Issues are resolved without becoming important and others are sorted at village and group level.

#### **Time saving**

CFUGs members reported benefits from the rule for systematic collection of forest production as is no longer any competition .For example in jharlang Khola in Bhumisthan dry wood and leaves can be collected on Fridays and Saturdays , and this enables school students to be able to do this.

Forest Biomass Harvested: 2001/02

The biomass harvested data of DRMP area was obtained from the District FUG Database and other records

As per USAID SO1 indicator framework, the unit of measurement for the "forest biomass product" is 'cubic meter', thus the biomass is shown as follows:

#### SUMMARY OF ANNUAL BIOMASS PRODUCT HARVESTED IN DRMP AREA

Forest product	NRMP area	DRMP 1998 - 01	DRMP 2002	Total	Conversion
Timber	28127.32	29094.43	19202	76423.75 cu ft	2164 cu.m.
Fuelwood	94374.96	97629.27	64435	256439 Bhari	7693170 kg/7693MT/11832 cu. m.
Fodder	1417.26	1466	967	3850 Bhari	115500kg/115MT/438.9 cu.m.
Grass	108419.69	112157	74023	294599.69 Bhari	8837990.7 kg/8837.99 MT/33584.36 cu.m.
Dry leaf litter	99160.99	102579.15	67702	269442.14 Bhari	8083264.2 kg/8083.26 MT/30716.40 cu.m.
Green leaf litter	58860.84	60889.82	40186	159936.66 Bhari	4798099.8 kg/4798.1 MT/18232.78 cu.m.
Total:					96968.44 cu.m.

The following conversion factors have been used to calculate the products into cubic meters (cu.m.).

1 cu.m. = 35.31 cu ft

1 Bhari = 30 kg

1 Metric ton (Timber/Fuelwood) = 1.538 cu.m.

1 MT (Litter/fodder/ grass) = 3.8 cu.m.

#### Sales of Forest Product\*

Sales of NTFP

Sal leaf NRs. 30,000

Different medicinal plants NRs. 175,000

Wild fruits NRs. 30,000

**Subtotal NRs. 235,000**

**Sale of Timber**

**NRs. 2,187,850**

Total NRs. 2,422,850

In US Dollar @ 78 US\$ 31,062.18

(\* This data was collected from informal discussion with FUG members, DFO staff, Project Staff and local traders.)

## FUG Operational Plans Revision Post Formation Area (ex NRMP)

The following table illustrates work in progress on the expired FUG/Ops, which has been carried out by RIMS as part of the DRMP subcontract. Though not part of the original DRMP targets, but vital for FUGs involved in NTFP work, in order that they can legally harvest their forest products. All the field work has been completed with data entry office work and DFO registration still remaining to be completed. This work will be completed by RIMS Nepal through their NTFP Program.

S/N	Name of FUG	VDC – ward	Ha area	h/h	population	Committee		
						M	F	Total
1	Gurdum	Naubise - 8	137.95	51	361	7	4	11
2	Khawa Barabise	“ 7	16.49	32	195	6	3	9
3	Majuwa	“ 8	43.25	46	236	7	4	11
4	Toplang	“ 7	51.76	52	322	5	4	9
5	Lapse	“ 7	41.20	52	302	5	6	11
6	Chisapani	“ 7	54.44	22	126	7	2	9
7	Satiko	“ 1	2.15	80	509	6	3	9
8	Setidevisthan	“ 7	31.18	52	302	5	4	9
9	Thali	“ 8	41.01	41	276	7	4	11
10	Thalkudanda	Tasarpu - 9	8.08	35	203	7	4	11
11	Hattisunde	Thakre - 7	27.47	108	718	5	4	9
	<b>Total: 11 FUGs</b>		<b>454.98</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>3550</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>109</b>

*Note: 38.5 % are female FUG committee members, with an average of 0.79 ha community forest per household.*



**Appendix:**

***Concept Paper:* DRMP Village Level Coordination Committee (VLCC)**

Present HMG/N Policy of decentralisation as part of the evolving democratic system is becoming a reality in the form of new legislation, called Local Governance Act. The main essence of this act will be to strengthen the District Development Committee (DDC) and devolve central power to the DDC, who will be the umbrella government entity with power and control for all District matters and assets. This will also include forestry, which presently is controlled by the DFO who reports to the DoF at Central level.

In an effort to make the Local Governance Act a reality, local networks and linkages need to be introduced, both at District level and at VDC level. To enable better coordination between DRMP and other stakeholders at different levels, regular meetings are already held at Central level (PCC), District level (DPCC) and local VDC level (FLCC). This is written into the project document.

To enable effective and constructive networking amongst registered FUGs, it is suggested to set up VDC level FUG Co-ordination Committees in all VDCs of the DRMP/Post Formation area and later in other working areas of DRMP. This committee would be called Village Level Co-ordination Committee (VLCC), made up of at least one member from each FUG in the VDC, preferably with female FUG representation, VDC and Range Post representation.

**The main tasks of the VLCC will be:**

- Sharing, planning, discussing common issues, preparing a VDC wide vision for FUG activity
- District level co-ordination especially with DFO and other resource providers, supervising and monitoring FUG activity and participating in training/workshops
- Networking/pressure group work and implementing other CD activities, FUG and VLCC training needs assessment and be a platform for change in the area.
- Resolving local conflicts, especially FUG transboundary issues and integrating forestry into the VDC/DDC.

This VLCC concept fits well with the objectives of the Local Governance Bill, which devolves more authority to VDCs and DDCs. CFUGs will need to be answerable to the VDC as this change process is developed.

**Possible Questions:**

- does not fit present DFO or FECOFUN administrative structure
- could have political bias, or be taken over by VDC domination
- what kind of relationship can be developed between FUGs and the VDC
- will the female FUG representation be capable to speak out

It is felt that the VLCC could take over DRMP responsibilities, in a supportive role as DRMP phases out of the old NRMP working area. DRMP could continue to provide some training, guidance and other necessary assistance to enable the VLCC to grow in capacity. This on-going help could be continued through the DRMP Staff NGO (RIMS) and become a forum for change and also network with other VLCCs in neighbouring areas.

In order to give FUGs some degree of autonomy and at the same time providing limited support, this idea of setting up a VDC wide co-ordination committee was discussed with DFO and related VDC leaders, as DRMP prepares to phase out in the PFS area. The Village Level Co-ordination Committee (VLCC) will have representation from all FUGs in the VDC, plus VDC and DFO membership. The VLCC will meet bi-monthly, receive reports, concerns and issues facing FUGs, plan and monitor progress, request suitable trainings both for themselves to improve their capacity as leaders and also technical training for FUG members and suggest other CD activities in which FUGs could become involved.

## Appendix

### Development Fund

DRMP has a community development fund that Forest User Groups and Community Development groups can apply to for resources to support the implementation of their Action Plans.

The objectives of the programme are as follows:

- 1) To identify and mobilise local resources
- 2) The continuity of the programme through self motivation and self realisation to the community people
- 3) To improve the quality of life of the poor and marginalised by increasing income sources.

These objectives can be achieved in the following way:

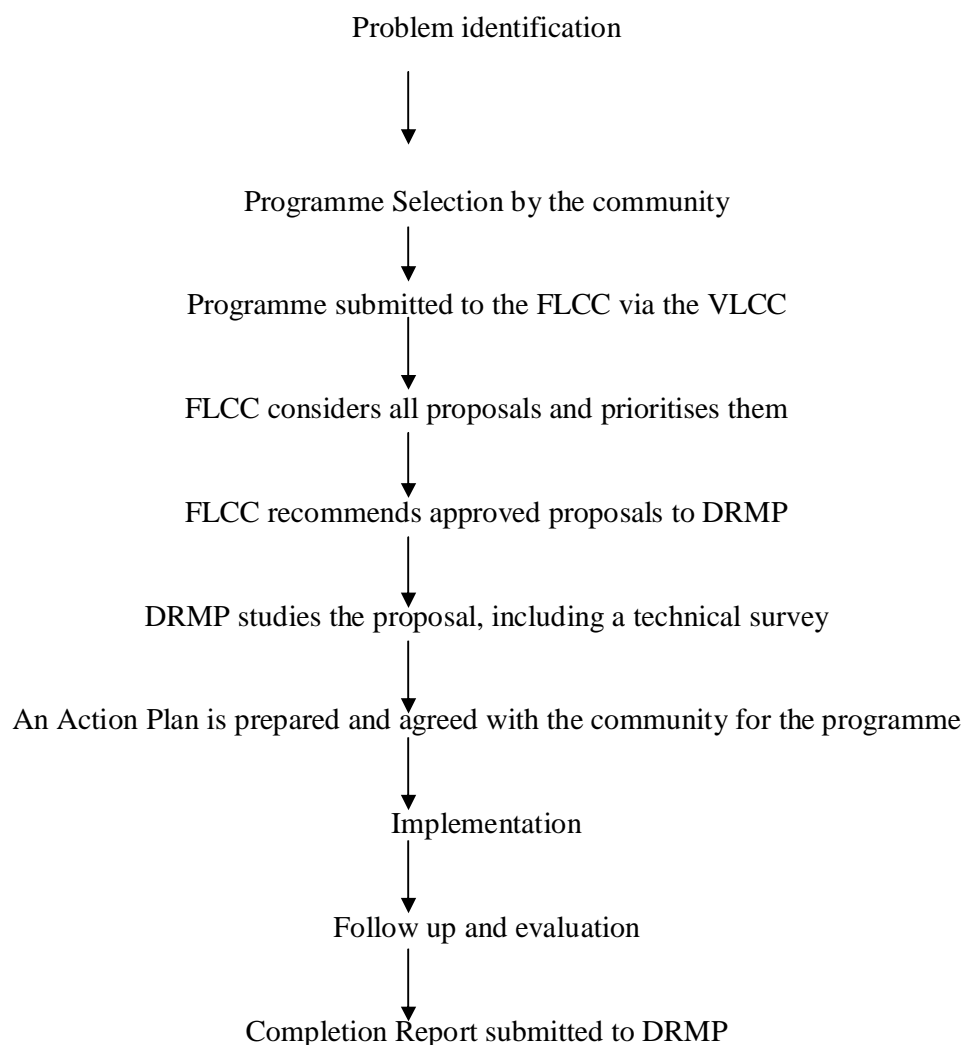
- 1) Through the action plan local resources are identified and mobilised. Obtaining support from DRMP's Community Development Fund may make it easier for communities to gain matched funds from other sources.
- 2) As groups are successful in obtaining funds for small projects they are motivated to continue working for community development. Self realisation and confidence comes as they have gained skills to apply for funding to institutions and their application has been supported by the VLCC, FLCC and DRMP.
- 3) The projects supported are those that improve people's quality of life, such as sanitation activities, or increase income sources.

The process of fund mobilisation is shown on figure xx.

Activities supported include:

- Small irrigation programmes for vegetable farming
- Development and maintenance of drinking water systems
- Income generation programmes
- Toilet construction
- Roofing maintenance of schools and community buildings

## DEVELOPMENT FUND MOBILISATION PROCESS



**Community Nutrition Project, Dhading summary report**

The community nutrition project (CNP) in coordination with Dhading Resource Management Project (DRMP) had been running since 2001. DRMP was already working in the field of community forestry program. The working area covers Salang and Kallery VDCs where the instigation of nutrition activities was easier through the mobilization of group already formed by DRMP.

**Activities and achievement****1. Nutrition Training**

CNP has conducted training for different groups during the year 2001-2002

Group	Times/Yr.	No. Of days	No. Of trainees
Female Child Health Volunter (FCHV)/ Traditional Birth Attended (TBA)	1	1	20
Health Post (HP)/Sub Health Post (SHP) in charge	1	1	30
Direct Recording Scale (DRS) volunteer	1	2	28
Active Ward Group	1	1	53
School Student	1	1	694
Dhami -Jhankri	1	2	31
<b>Total</b>			<b>856</b>

During the training session most nutrition related topics were covered with a special focus on breast feeding, food during illness, food for pregnant and lactating women, local food values, sarbottam pitho, oral rehydration solution, child growth and development anaemia, Vitamin A, IDD, Necessary documents posters, pamphlets, flipchart, slide etc.were used and role play, case studies, demonstration, brainstorming ad games were also included.

**2. Growth Monitoring**

Growth Monitoring is one of the most important activities of the CNP. During the 1<sup>st</sup> year CNP succeed to establish 18 growth monitoring unit. Regular Growth Monitoring has been carried out using the Direct Recording scale (DRS) in different DRS group of the 2 VDCs for the children of under 5 years .The total number of children attending for Growth Monitoring is 2564 among them 1908 (74%) of children are in road to health and 656(26%) are in not road to health

**3. Community Based Malnutrition children Follow-up**

Follow up of malnourished cases in an important part of the CNP, Through this follow up community people realized Sarbottam Pitho is the best supplementary food for children .62 severely malnourished cases were followed up with a home visit .48(77%) children out of 62 increase there reference weight for age during the home based follow up. Most of the children are poor and marginalized and faced several problems for treatment .Therefore CNP built a relationship to Nutrition Rehabilitation Home (NRH), Kathmandu for rehabilitation of children .5 severely malnourished children were referred to NRH for rehabilitation.

**4. Exclusive Breastfeeding**

Exclusive Breastfeeding of infant up to 5 month-old is an important parameter to find out nutrition practice. Among the mother attending GMUs total number of 475-mother s having a child of up to 5 month of age in which 428(90%) were exclusively breast-feed.

**5. Micronutrient deficiencies**

Assessment of suspect micronutrient deficiencies – vitamin A deficiency, iron deficiency, and goiter has been carried out for women and children at the time of GMUs and for school children school visit. Suspected cases were referred to HP/SHP for supplementation and were also given nutrition education such as consumption of locally available vitamin A rich food, iron rich food and iodized packed salt.

#### **Deficiencies among under 5 year's children**

Deficiencies	Number of cases	Referred for supplement
<b>Suspected vitamin A deficiency</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Suspected iron deficiency</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>89</b>

#### **Deficiencies among pregnant and lactating mother**

Deficiencies	Number of cases	Referred for supplement
<b>Suspected vitamin A deficiency</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Suspected iron deficiency</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>140</b>

#### **6. Support of Vitamin A and Immunization**

CNP helped with the National Vitamin A Programme and NID in 2 VDCs on 18-19 Oct. 2001 and 20-21 April 2002 CNP also conducted a class on the topic of vitamin A.

#### **7. Demonstration Programme**

Demonstration of cereal based Oral rehydration solution and Sarbottam Pitho was organized by CNP in NFE class, Mother's group in the target VDCs of CNP. Altogether 234 were participated during the demonstration .The objective of demonstration was to develop the skill for preparation of Sarbottam Pitho and Oral rehydration solution.

#### **Strengths and progress:**

- Mothers, Schoolteacher and students were actively involved in nutrition activities, which shows the preliminary steps in awareness building.
- The families of malnourished children have started to feed Sarbottam Pitho to their children with green leafy vegetable.
- Mother has started to feed colostrums to their new birth baby.
- The participation of mothers and under 5 yrs.children was increasing at growth monitoring and they discussed with each other about children's card.

#### **Problems and obstacles:**

- According to the annual plan a training program for VDC members was not conducted in working areas due to the political instability .
- Only 44%trainees were followed up according

I was lame – but now I walk!

### Case study of Mitthe Pariyar, Damaidanda, Khari VDC

Damaidanda is a small tole of 15 Damai h/h, situated in ward 6 Khari VDC of Dhading District. They live by the *Purkheuli* (traditional/ancestral) occupation and are lacking in education, economic and social status. Other higher caste groups dominate and hinder them from having equal opportunities through the traditional caste practice. They have very little land of their own, so use the share cropping system with richer villagers to survive, which also results in further exploitation.

DRMP started working in Khari VDC in 2055 and Damaidanda was selected as one of the focus communities for the Pre Formation Phase. Meetings were held in Damaidanda, so that they could find out about DRMP. Later they formed a CD (community development) group, as they were excited to become involved. This was the first occasion that any development effort had been focused on their poor village. The CD group met regularly with DRMP staff to discuss their problems and make plans, as they realised that awareness and working together is the foundation of development.

I forgot the actual day, but about 1-year later, Mitthe Dai, the chairperson of their CDG came to our field office and requested us to organise a meeting to discuss non formal education with them. During the community meeting, we informed them about DRMP support for books, board, pens, chalk, lamps, kerosene etc, but that they needed to provide facilitator, hall and at least 12 participants. Because they had nowhere to meet and insufficient participants, sadly the meeting closed. After 5 days, Mitthe Dai met us again to request another community meeting to discuss the matter further. We were really surprised to see they had built a small meeting hall, selected a facilitator and produced a list of 18 participants!

DRMP and even 50 year old Mitthe Dai, who had never had any formal education also participated in the class supported the class. He made good progress with his writing and also understanding of the village situation, by having regular discussion and meeting together with his neighbours. He managed to write an application himself to request DRMP to facilitate their group with CFUG formation of their local forest area, after hearing about the possibilities from DRMP field staff.

Mitthe presented an action plan for forming their own CFUG and requested DRMP to prepare OP and arrange necessary work. We were very pleased that as a result of Mitthe attending the RCE class **he was able to write a formal application for the community forest group** formation. Later a CFUG was formed and now Damaidanda has its own CF area registered in their own name and they can utilize it for their own benefits. **Mitthe was elected as the CFUG Chairperson and he now proudly represents his CFUG on the VLCC.**

Last week, I met Mitthe on the way to Khari VDC from Dhadingbesi, he told me “ *I was lame, yesterday I walked by a stick and I feared the stick would break before my wound recovered*”. (DRMP has supported them initially, but they still need support in order to become strong and independent).

Submitted by Krishna Kattal, DRMP Ranger and Khari VDC Team Leader. August 2002

## **RIMS- Report**

### **Background:**

The staff of DRMP have formed their own District-registered NGO called Resource Identification Management Society- Nepal (RIMS-NEPAL). The main objective of RIMS-NEPAL is upliftment of poor and marginalized people, through identification and management of their local resources including both natural and human resources.

In May 2002, RIMS-NEPAL submitted a proposal through UMN to USAID in order to complete Dhading Resource Management Project (DRMP) fourth year commitments, which were not possible through DRMP due to the lack of funds.

After submitting a proposal, the proposal was approved and provided an opportunity for DRMP through RIMS to prepare focus groups and communities for becoming more independent and to start to develop networks. This funding extension helped to maintain good working relations with local stakeholders and supported UMN's reputation in the area.

This four months funding has provided a useful bridging period to smoothly link the present work with the new four years project presently being designed (i.e. partnership with CARE-NEPAL) and also enabled RIMS to have practice working experience as an independent NGO.

Highlights on RIMS- activities:

- Ø Conducted six trainings/workshop, for income generation activities and drinking water and sanitation programs with FUG's.
- Ø Action plan fulfilled. Four Drinking water systems were completed.
- Ø Completed CF activities where supported to fulfil DRMP's target/commitments.
- Ø RIMS staffs as well as CDG's were benefited through various skill-based training.

The detailed quantitative report is given in an appendix:

## **UMN FUNDING PROPOSAL TO USAID**

To complete Dhading Resource Management Project (DRMP) Fourth year Commitments

*May-2002-August 2003*

*Amount required: US \$ 37000*

### **Background**

Funding for DRMP activities from USAID will termination by August 2002, which is in fact only 4 years original 5 years Strategies plan and HMG/UMN Agreement 1998-2003. The reason for this anomaly is that the USAID funding period was provided to United Mission to Nepal in two 5 years cycles: i.e. NRMP 6 years + years DRMP =10years (1992-2002). Plans are being made for all DRMP staff to be made redounded in May and DRMP wound up by August 2002. However, because USAID budget was cut for the present year (fourth) of DRMP, some activities and smooth hand over will not be possible because of lack of funds.

Much work has already been achieved in preparing some of the poorest communities in the district to become active members of forest user groups (FUG) and to be legally registered with the district forest office. This has result in local communities having legal access to HMG forest areas and able to utilise the forests for their own local needs, such a firewood timber, fodder and litter. DRMP will have successfully facilitated over 140 FUGs during the 4 year period and has even been able to continue working effectively during the state of Emergency, their strong support from local people and HMG district officials.

In line with United Mission to Nepal vision and DRMP goals detailed in DRMP stratifies plan, the staff of DRMP have formed their own district registered NGO. This is called Resource Identification Management Society -Nepal (RIMS-NEPAL), which plans to implement post DRMP follow up activities in the present working area, which covers 24 VDCs -about half of Dhading District. However to date no commitment from donors has been forthcoming for a new 5 year programming in the DRMP working area. RIMS has recently started a small scale Non Timber Forest Product (NTFP) program in part of DRMP working area, which is providing RIMS with useful working experience funded by the uniting churches of the Netherlands (UCN).

This proposal will provided an opportunity for DRMP to prepare focus groups and communities for being more independent and start to develop networks, which RIMS post DRMP program can further develop and support. This funding extension will help to maintain good working relations with local stakeholders and support UMN's reputation in the area. The advantage of working in an already exiting project infrastructure include: physical structure, experienced and committed workforce cost/benefits of funds allocated and the opportunity to develop a useful birding [period to smoothly link the present work with the new 5 year project presently being designed and also enable RIMS to have working experience as an independent NGO.

### **Vision / Goal:**

To improve skills and build capacity of poorest and women, so that they can active and responsible roles in FUGs and other development groups in order to improve their quality of life.

### **Mission:**

Provide training and technical support to focus groups, in order to achieve the vision

### **Rationale:**

There are several points to be mentioned to justify this proposal:

- ✓ United Mission to Nepal has committed itself with HMG to implement until 2003
- ✓ UMN's reputation and relations at all (i e VDC/DDC/Central) could be adversely affected if the fifth year activities of DRMP are not completed.



- ✓ Many potential FUGs in DRMP area will not be formed and registered, even though much preparation work has already been started and local people are eager to co operate.
- ✓ To support institutional FUG/CDG networks which still requires support and training to legitimise and sustain the VLCC concept (VLCC-local networks of FUG representatives)
- ✓ Community ownership: Follow up for Drinking Water System (DWS) installed and income Generation Activities (IGA) as needed for ownership feeling and effective utilisation.
- ✓ Women leadership: Over 40% of FUGs committee (FUGC) members are females, but leadership skills through training have yet to be developed with many FUGCs.
- ✓ Ex DRMP skilled and experienced manpower immediately available and committed to implement this work even during this state of Emergency period.
- ✓ Little preparation /orientation required as this work would continue where DRMP finishes, provided funds are forthcoming in time.
- ✓ Clear targets and focused approach items can be utilised project cycle, the following major activities will be implemented:

### **Main Approach:**

In Order to complete the Fifth year of the DRMP project cycle ,the following major activities will be implemented:

- ✓ Formation and registered 60 FUGs in the present DRMP working area. Where pre formation activities have been completed and where communities are aware and understand .
- ✓ Operational plan (OP) Revision of 15 expired FUGs including those in the RIMS/NTFP working area ,who require valid OP in order to legally market NTFP production
- ✓ FUG/CDG networking : VLCC formation /institutional with FUGs
- ✓ IGA: follow up and support for potential new programmes with FUGs
- ✓ DWS: follow up/ maintains training / committee support /institution
- ✓ FUGS Female Member: provide women leadership Training (WLT) and coaching
- ✓ FUG: OP Reflection Workshop /Technical Training /Accounting /MGT Training

### **Staffing**

As this programme requires little awareness raising activities and is focused, the member op staff requires to complete this work will be much less than during DRMP. It is estimated that the following staff will be sufficient:

- 1- Project Director (will also be involved in documentation as well as MGT.)
- 1-CF Forest officer (will also do some fieldwork as well as staff supervision)
- 1-Training Officer (FUG/OP plus non technical trainings)
- 6- rangers (FUG/OP plus non technical training /workshop)
- 2- Trainers (WLT plus non technical training/workshop)
- 1- Business Manger
- 1- Typist
- 1- Driver
- 1-Office Helper /mail runner

- 1- Expatriate Advisor (will also support other RIMS activities) if available from United Mission to Nepal

Total staff: 15+1

**Estimated Budget:**

It is planned that the majority of [project activities will be in the form of training /workshop, with only limited funds required for material support. Also all existing DRMP capital items can be used without the need to purchase new estimate fifth year budget and will therefore be highly cost effective. It is expenses for implementing this work detailed budget statement is available on request.

**DRMP Budget Extension May - August 2002**

	Nepali Rupees
1. Salaries/benefits	923,200
2. Travel	122,000
3. Utilities	75,000
4. Repair/maintain	40,000
5. Minor Capital	0
6. Supplies/material	60,000
7. Community Dev Training	254,000
8. Post Form Support	550,000
9. Rent	50,000
10. Field Logistic Support	35,000
11. Institutional Support	278,000
12. Audit	40,000
13 Programme Support @ 14.4%	392,285
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>Nepali Rs: 2,819,485</b>

Notes on budget:

1 Salaries: Programme Coordinator 4 months @ 30,000	120,000
Forest officer 4 mths @ 24,000	96,000
Training officer 4 mths @ 24,000	96,000
Business manager 4 mths @ 10,000(parttime)	40,000
DW Technicians x 2 @ 12,000 x 4 mths	96,000
Rangers x 6 @ 12,000 x 4 mths	288,000

Trainers x 2 @ 12,000 x 4 mths	96,000
Typist @ 9600 x 4 mths	38,400
Secretary @ 7200 x 4 mths	28,800
Mail run/helper @ 6,000 x 4 mths	24,000
	923,200
7. Comm Dev	
training:	
VLCC Form/Institutional Dev Training 12 x 5000	60,000
Stakeholder Reflection Workshop 3 x 15,000	45,000
IGA Follow up Workshops 2 x 15,000	30,000
DW - Basic Care Maintain Training 2 x 25,000	50,000
FUG Women Leadership Training 2 x 8,000	16,000
FUG/OP Reflection Workshops 4 x 10,000	40,000
FUG Account training 2 x 6,500	13,000
	254,000
8. Post Formation Support:	
Remaining DWS Installation 5 x 80,000	400,000
Skilled labour/transportation	50,000
Community Forest Mgt Support (equipment)	100,000
	550,000
11. Institutional Support:	
DFO Support:DFO staff TA/DA	30,000
FUG/OP Revision	120,000
NGO Organisational/Mgt Training	128,000
	278,000